



SEPTEMBER 2018 EDITION

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***HOS 30th SEPTEMBER
MEETING***

EDITORS NOTE

It has to be said that this years calendar of events has been a bit convoluted in the middle . There seemed to be events going on every other week with society shows and meetings and together with RHS events it got a bit hectic. I struggled to get all the news in the June edition and consequently this issue is a bit thin but that's how it goes.

This year, for me, has flown by and the HOS annual show is a lot nearer than it seems, so along with my little team, I have already started planning .We have done it once at the new venue so the mechanics of set up and everything that goes with it are a lot easier. The main concern is increasing the interest in the event and getting people through the door. This is where you as a member of HOS can help by encouraging friends and family to come along and visit the show. I along with my colleagues will do our best to make it interesting and enjoyable for them if they come along. If every member brought 2 guests it would make a huge difference.

Last year we gave posters and leaflets out but didn't really have any idea on where they went .So this year we are hoping to ask all members if they will volunteer to put out a few A4 posters and a few flyers. This will make it easier to see where they all

go and if any areas are not being covered. I will send out a request e/mail a bit nearer the time . This is just to get you thinking about it but feel free to let me know if you can do this . The sooner the better ,every little helps!

22nd JULY MEETING

AT HARLOW CARR

There was a good turnout for the July meeting which was “Back to Basics” lead by Ian with good support from the floor by the more experienced members and plenty of questions from those less experienced as well as from experts who were trying something different. No matter how experienced one is, there is always something new which will be of interest at these discussions.

There was a good deal of discussion about the weather in June and July, little did we know but there was more of the same to come. Lack of rain for soft water was a problem and the high temperatures led the discussion regarding temperatures in the greenhouse and how to avoid over-heating.

Half way through the proceedings Ivor Pawson, gave the group the benefit of his knowledge of photographing orchids. In this era of mobile phone cameras, the tips that Ivor shared with us will come in useful! Not least, the idea of a plain background which is shown on the attached photo of *Lc. Kupferprinz* (*Cattleya Kerchoviana* Peeters × *Laelia tenebrosa* Rolfe) which could be improved by using a tripod!



Everyone enjoyed the discussions and the general consensus of opinion was that this should be an annual feature in our program.

REPORT BY TONY GARTHWAITE

SOME INTERESTING PLANTS FROM THE TABLE



DENDROBIUM HIBIKI CCE/AOS

A robust primary hybrid between *Den. laevifolium* and *Den. bracteosum* that exhibits the vivid purple flowers often seen on the former species. The growth form of this hybrid is robust and 'squat', with canes reaching no more than 8 inches or so in length.



COELOGYNE CUPREA

Found in Sumatra and Borneo in lower montane, mossy forests at elevations of 1000 to 2500 meters as a medium sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte with 1.2 to 1.4" [3 to 4 cm] between each globose.

2 DAY ORCHIDS FOR EVERYONE

AT HARLOW CARR

This was held on the 4th/5th August and is now a well established event in the HOS calendar. If my memory serves me right , it always seems to be a reasonable day weather wise . It might have been a bit windy on one occasion but in general its good and this seems to bring in the people to look round our table show in ever larger numbers and this year was no exception. The members on duty each day were kept very busy answering questions about problem plants , how to grow this or that plant and doing repotting demonstrations. The new members table signed on 10 new members and judging by the e/mails I have had from them most are serious about it. One or two let me know that they couldn't make to the last meeting but will make the next and several came to the meeting and where warmly welcomed by the chairman Ian Dorman . There is always a good turn out of members to help at this event and it is now a well established date in the diary. Not only does it help contribute to the RHS at Harlow Carr in return for the free use of the meeting rooms it boosts the interest in HOS. Outside the two trade stands ,Burnham nurseries and Phoenix orchids were busy all day selling lots of orchids to the general public. Its hard to reconcile this demand and the apparent slow decline in orchid society membership!

**OPPOSITE AND ON THE
NEXT PAGE ARE SOME OF
THE MANY BRILLIANT
PLANTS THAT WHERE ON
THE TABLE DISPLAY**



Phalaenopsis Cleopatra ASM/RHS



**Banfieldara Guided Tower
Mystic Maze**

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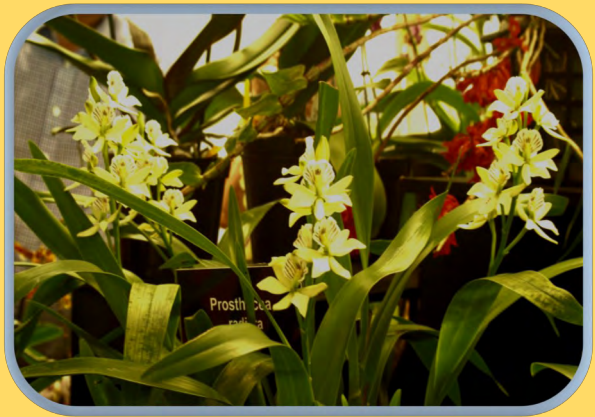
Paphiopedilum Michael Koopowitz



Pycopsis mariposa



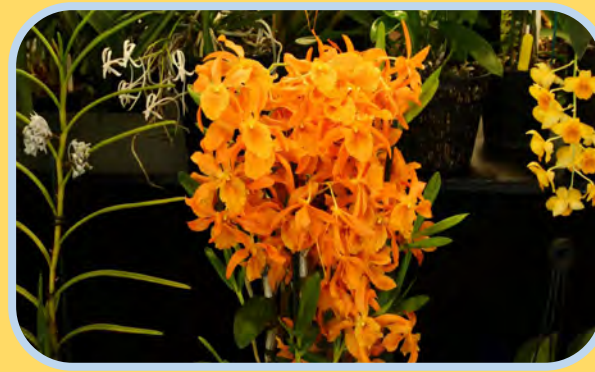
Vanda prelor



Prosthecea radiata



Vanda soavis



(ORANGE) Stardust V Firebird

MEMBERS PLANT FOCUS

Pleione Confirmation



The pan of Pleione Confirmation displayed on the Table at the September meeting to show the attractive bulbs had six flowers open within the week. This Autumn flowering Pleione is a man made cross between Pl. maculata and Pl. praecox. There is a natural hybrid: Pl. x lagenaria which is considered to be the same cross occurring in the wild as the flowering periods of the parents overlap.

To quote Paul Cumbleton: "one of the parents, praecox has a wide

geographical distribution and individual plants vary in hardiness depending on the altitude they come from. As a result, hybrids made with them will also vary in hardiness".

This is obvious when researching cultural suggestions for this hybrid. There will be those who have difficulty in growing in 75% sphagnum and 25% bark, causing the roots and pseudobulb to rot whilst others will grow in 100% sphagnum with



no problems. It is likely that the temperature is a factor in the equation as the plants in the photograph are grown in 80% sphagnum with 10% bark and 10% perlite. The plastic pot sits in a saucer and watering is from the top of the compost when the saucer is dry. A weak fertiliser has been given with each watering throughout the year with the addition of a few (10-12) slow-release granules added to the compost when re-potting after flowering. The re-potting last year was simply moving the root ball into a slightly larger pot so as not to disturb the roots which are brittle and easily broken. Once broken, they will not recover.

The plants in the photograph are kept in the warm house where the temperature may fall to 15°C during the Winter months but rise to 30°C++ in the Summer (especially this year!) However, This hybrid has been successfully flowered In a frost-free greenhouse, so it is likely that the parents have come from high altitude stock. The flowers last for two to four weeks but probably less if the bees get near them! All in all, it is a delightful Pleione giving pleasure in both bulb **and** flower.

ARTICLE SENT IN BY TONY GARTHWAITE

NOTICES

THE LAST 2 MEETINGS OF THE YEAR

21st OCTOBER AT THE MEETING ROOMS HARLOW CARR

THE SPEAKER IS JOHN GAY TALKING ABOUT
PRAGMIPEDIUM KOVACHII AND ITS INFLUENCE IN HYBRIDISING

18th NOVEMBER AT THE MEETING ROOMS HARLOW CARR

THE SPEAKERS ARE

HILARY HOBBS & JEAN BARKER

2 CULTIVATED LADIES AND THEIR ORCHIDS

NOTICE FROM SHEFFIELD ORCHID SOCIETY

We have a very good speaker for our November meeting, none other than Gerry Walsh (The Rock Lily Man) from New South Wales. Gerry is an expert in Australian native orchids, with many years of field work behind him and a judge for the Australian Native Orchid Society. He speaks as well as he writes (check his blog on his website www.therocklilyman.com) and so this should be a very entertaining and informative meeting.

We'd like to extend an invitation to attend this meeting to you and any of your members who would like to be there.

The meeting will start at 10am on the 11th of November at the Education Centre, Sheffield Botanic Gardens, Thompson Road (off Eccleshall Road).

Directions: For those without Sat Nav From the M1

Junction 33 A630 Sheffield Parkway to Park Square Roundabout (The very end of the Parkway).

Follow A61S past the Station.

Bear right following 'Ring Road', straight across the first roundabout, then left at the second roundabout on to the A625 Eccleshall Road.

After about 3/4 of a mile look out for a brown tourist sign for the Botanic Gardens, turn right into Thompson Road. The Botanic Garden gates are about 50 yards directly in front of you.

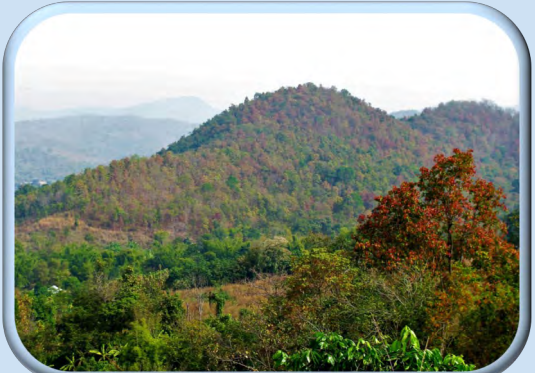
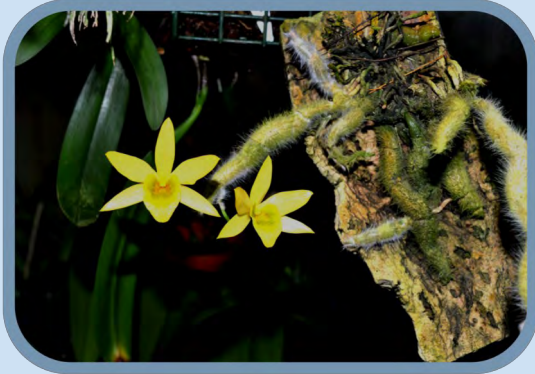
There is limited free parking just through the Botanic Gardens gates (about 20-25 cars), otherwise it's Pay & Display just outside I'm afraid.

M SHEFFIELD ORCHID SOCIETY

TRICKY TO GROW PLANTS

Dendrobium senile

Distribution: Indo-China: LAOS MYANMA THAILAND VIETNAM.



Not all of the land in the tropics is tropical rainforest. Some areas are too cold (mountain tops), or are too dry. In some areas there may be a lot of heavy rain, but it falls seasonally and the long dry season prevents tropical rainforest from developing. For example the climate of Thailand is tropical, with three distinct seasons: a hot season from March to mid-May, a rainy season caused by the southwest monsoon, which generally runs from mid-May to October, and a dry and relatively cool season from November to February, when the north-east monsoon, coming from the Asian continent, prevails. However, the relatively cool season is felt in the north and in inland areas..

Dendrobium senile. Is found growing in a wide variety of habitats: between 500-1200 m. Many of the trees and plants growing in these conditions have evolved to adjust to the wet and dry seasons including some orchids. At the start of the dry season the trees shed their leaves as do the deciduous orchids.

Greenhouse culture. It is important to try and replicate the same growing conditions for D. senile. The distinctive 12½cm long pseudobulbs of this species are covered with long white woolly hairs and bear two to three leaves at the apex which enable the plants to develop their pseudobulbs in the short period during the rainy season, (between May and October). It is important not to water after the leaves are discarded. Flowers up to 5cm across appear in ones and two's during the cooler and dryer season. I grow this species on bark and water daily and also feed it weekly during the growing period.

ARTICLE BY Bernard McDonald

DURHAM SHOW REPORT

I think Durham is one of the more interesting places to visit and exhibit at an orchid show. Held in one of the university halls, it is just a short walk to the town centre, the oriental museum, botanical gardens or the river. Every year we attend, the weather seems to be fine and this year was no exception. Lovely sunshine with a bit of breeze. Once again HOS members put on a great display winning lots of rosettes for their efforts and contributing to a good show although 1 or 2 traders failed to turn up which is a worrying trend.

SHOW RESULTS SHOWING HOS MEMBERS



CLASS	NAME OF PLANT	OWNER
<i>DENDROBIUM HYBRID</i>	<i>DENDROBIUM HIBIKI</i>	IAN DORMAN
<i>DENDROBIUM SPECIES</i>	<i>DENDROBIUM LOWESII</i>	HILARY HOBBS
<i>ONCIDIINAE SPECIES</i>	<i>TRICHOCENTRUM LANCEANUM</i>	HILARY HOBBS
<i>ANY OTHER SPECIES</i>	<i>DENDROCHILUM UNDULATUM</i>	PATRICIA & MALCOLM WHITE
<i>PLEUROPHALLIDINAE SPECIES/HYBRID</i>	<i>STELIS PILOSA</i>	HILARY HOBBS
<i>CYMBIDIUM SPECIES/HYBRID</i>	<i>CYMBIDIUM DAYANUM</i>	IVOR PAWSON
BEST PLANT IN SHOW	<i>STELIS PILOSA</i>	HILARY HOBBS

SOME OF THE PRIZE WINNING PLANTS



Cymbidium dayanum



Trichocentrum lanceanum

SORRY FOR THE POOR QUALITY OF PICTURES. THERE WAS A BRIGHT SUN SHINING STRAIGHT DOWN ONTO THE TABLE

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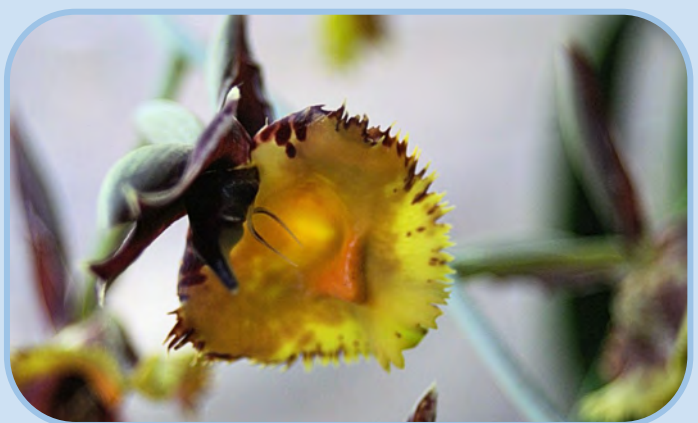
Catasetum fanfare



Dendrobium undulatum



Stelis pilosa



Stanhopea graveolens

MEETING ON 30th SEPTEMBER AT HARLOW CARR

This meeting was looked forward to by many members because of the long gap of nearly 2 months since the last one. There has of course been plenty of other things going on but it's nice to have a get together and catch up with fellow members that you haven't seen for a while.

The speaker was Mike Armstrong of Mikandra Orchids and the subject was Cattleya species and hybrids. Mike Armstrong drew heavily on his wonderful collection of photographs of Cattleya species to illustrate his talk whilst giving us an insight into how he grows them, and advice on overcoming some of the problems that the amateur grower faces. One of the key points is to know the conditions in which any particular species grows in the wild, in particular the amount of rainfall and humidity that can be found in native habitats. Many problems could be avoided by buying a plant that suits the conditions that we are able to offer: whether or not we have a heated greenhouse or conservatory, or if the plant has no choice but to survive on the kitchen window ledge.

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Cattleyas nearly always live in positions that benefit from full sunshine for part of the day and so, unlike many tropical orchids that live in deeply shaded forests, these orchids require a sunny place in order to thrive and produce flowers.

Other key points were that he advocates a regular pattern of feeding and believes that, when repotting, Cattleyas benefit from being moved into a larger pot with their root-balls left intact rather than being thinned out. Mike mentioned that his other interest had been photography and that he is part of a group that give lessons to beginners. He also used to be a member of a group of growers that were said to be the national cattleya collection. How he finds time to be a member of a railway preservation society and rebuild steam engines is beyond me but this was his parting shot after a very well received talk.

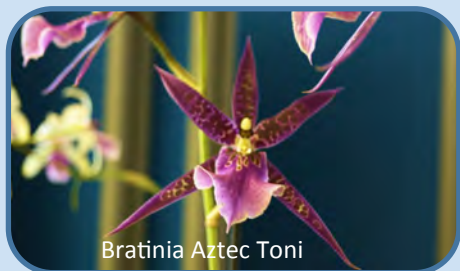


If you are not fed up with me by now, you should be and it is time to go home.

TABLE TALK

After coffee and a good assorted choice of cakes and biscuits and the raffle was drawn, we all got down to a table talk fronted by Ian Dorman. This always goes to the limit of time because of the splendid assortment of plants on the tables and this one was no exception, stimulating lots of discussion and debate among the many members that were there.

SOME OF THE PLANTS ON DISPLAY



Bratania Aztec Toni



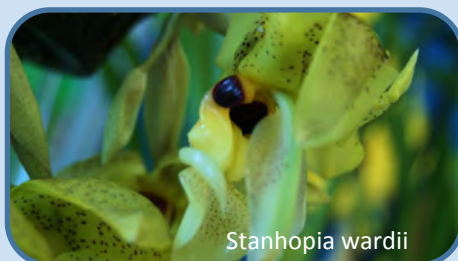
Miltonia regnellii



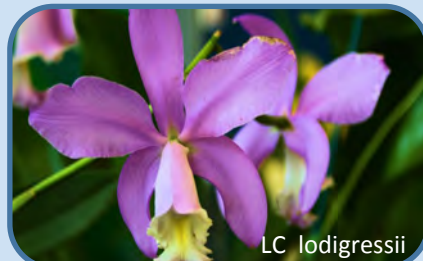
Cattleya eh Hsiang yu Gold Coast



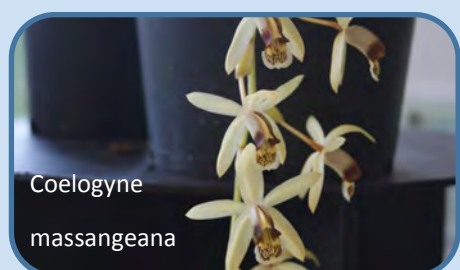
Cymbidium Mighty Sunset



Stanhopia wardii



LC lodigressii



Coelogyne
massangeana



Phaleanopsis
W lindenii

I hope you enjoy these pictures of the display table but there is one on the last page just a bit more special

CONTINUED

Paphiopedilum bougainvilleanum is very rare and local with a restricted distribution on Bougainville Island

The population trend is decreasing. The number of mature individuals is very low and it is estimated that there are under 50 in one subpopulation. The population has declined by more than 90% in the last three generations and is projected to decline similarly in the next three generations. There are many threats including illegal collection for horticultural purposes and hybridisation, regional and international trade, deforestation and habitat destruction. The estimated extent of occurrence and area of occupancy are 80 km² and 8 km², respectively, with an estimated continuing decline in the number of mature individuals and the quality of the habitat in the single location.



Therefore, Paphiopedilum bougainvilleanum is assessed as Critically endangered CE

Paphiopedilum bougainvilleanum is a terrestrial herb, which grows on trees with their roots embedded in loose, thick moss, or on the ground as humus epiphytes with their roots in leafy humus or thick layers of decomposing forests debris

Paphiopedilum bougainvilleanum is under numerous threats especially ruthless collection for regional and international trade, exploitation for horticultural purposes and hybridization, deforestation, logging and habitat destruction.

Conservation Actions: All orchid species are included under Annex B of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). All Paphiopedilum species are listed on Appendix I of CITES. However, the following actions are recommended to protect Paphiopedilum bougainvilleanum:

Field explorations are needed to find potential additional localities.

Organization and appropriate management of the species site.

Cultivated specimens should be used in the trade instead of wild plants as the species is easy to grow.

Protection of the habitat, especially from illegal collection and deforestation.

Ex situ conservation: Artificial propagation, re-introduction, seed collections.

Monitoring and surveillance of the existing subpopulations and sites.

Estimate the subpopulation sizes and study their dynamics.

THIS PLANT IS GROWN BY IAN DORMAN

