

Upcoming Events

2018:

21 - 23 Sept – EPOS Spring Show

28 - 29 Sept - Walker Bay OS Show,

28 - 30 Sept – COS Spring Show

28 - 30 Sept – WOS Spring Show,

13 - 14 Oct – NOS Spring Show,

26 – 28 Oct - TOG Spring Show



WITWATERSRAND ORCHID SOCIETY

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Fun & Friendship Through Orchids

SEPTEMBER 2018

Meeting: **SUNDAY, 23TH SEPTEMBER 2018**

NOTE: CHANGE OF DATE DUE TO SHOW

TOPIC: Pollination
HOST: Prof Craig Peter
TIME: 13h00 – Tea and snacks
14h00 – General Meeting
VENUE: The Floreum, Joburg Botanical Gardens,
Oliphants Rd, Emmerentia

TEA DUTY

Sheila Davis & Bill Mincher.

Please volunteer for Tea Duty (2 members per month). It is very social, and no skill is needed for this duty

RAFFLE

The *Den delicatum* (donated by Bill Mincher) was won by Marinus Kort

SPRING SHOW

By now you should be busy staking, cleaning and sorting out your plants for the Show. Make sure leaves and pots are cleaned, and all dead leaves, sheaths and weeds are removed.

The dates of the Show are:

- 26th Sept Plant acceptance 1pm -6pm
- 27th Sept Judging 9am – 12pm
- 27th Sep Display set-up 12pm onwards
- 28 – 30 Open to Public 9am – 4pm

FROM A TO Z – Part 4

(An alphabetical selection of natural Orchid Genera)

Sievekingia

This epiphytic genus of 16 small species is related to Stanhopea. It occurs in northern South America and grow in warm areas, in semi-shade and watering all year round. The flower spikes are either arching or pendant and are best grown mounted on in a basket. The flowers are non-resupinate.



Sievekingia riechenbachiana



Telipogon thomasi

Telipogon

The 202 species of this miniature genus are members of the Oncidiinae subtribe and are found from Costa Rica to Peru, with the largest concentration of species in the Columbian Andes. They are “twig epiphytes”. They are delicate, dwarf epiphytes and need damp cloud-forest conditions with deep shade, cool temperatures and ample air circulation. The cloud forest areas not only are damp, but a permanent fog blankets the ground and light is rarely high. They are one of the most difficult and wettest orchids that you can grow and, as such, need to be misted constantly and watered regularly.

Uncifera

This south-east Asian genus comprises 6 species and is epiphytic in warm, moist forests. It is closely related to Robiquetia. Nearly half of the original species have been transferred to other genera. It is a monopodial epiphytic genus and the small flowers are produced on pendulous spikes.



Uncifera thailandica



Vanilla roscheri

Vanilla roscheri

The 108 species of Vanilla are found in tropical areas around the world. The plant is a robust climbing, vine-like monopodial orchid which has or has no leaves. Mature plants of some species can be several meters long. Flowers are single to numerous and are short lived, but many are produced sequentially. 2 species are responsible for the production of the popular flavouring, Vanilla, which made from the processed seed pods. Although it can be produced artificially, the “real McCoy” is of much better flavour and quality.

THE PLANT TABLE – AUGUST 2018

By Allan Abel

Rules of the Plant Table

Every member is encouraged to bring and share their flowering orchids with other members. However, for plants to be entered in the prize selection process, they must comply with the following rules

- All plants must have been grown by **the owners for at least 6 months**.
- Novice section is for those members who are **new to growing orchids**. A Novice will cease to be a Novice when they;
 - o win a Red Ribbon at a WOS Show or
 - o win the Plant Table Annual Prize.

This month, the plant table consisted of 55 orchids belonging to 11 members.

Erhard Schmid

Eulophia speciosa
Encyclia osmantha
Den jenkensii
Dendrochilum yuccafolium
Dendrochilum glauumaceum
Dendrochilum wenzellii
Masdevallia Copper Wings
Restrepia – 4 species
Masdevallia – 3 species
Masdevallia – 3 hybrids

Chris Steckner

Den kingianum
Den Golden Talisman
Masdevallia Angel Frost
Paph esquirolei
Paph appletonianum
Aspasia lunata
Pleione formosana

Allan Abel

Zygo Artur Elle
Coelogyne cristata
Paph micranthum

Keith Palmer

Den delicatum
Cym Dorothy Stockstill

Chris Hammond

Paph Lleanum

Mishi Reickhoff

Ludisia discolour

Bill Mincher

C (King George x Spencer Brooks)
Ctt Gold Digger
Coelogyne mossii

Reinhard Lenz

Phal wilsonii
C walkeriana
Coelogyne Unchained Melody
Den speciosum

Mandy & Marinus Kort

Coelogyne Intermedia
Den speciosum
Cym Magic Devon
Cym Topo Gigio
Bst Summit
Lycaste virginialis

David Eastman

Epi Don Herman
C xdolosa
Rth Shinfong Little Sun
C Bow Bells
Phrag Elizabeth March
Coelogyne cristata
Cym Showgirl
Paph (*charlesworthii* x Black Velvet)
Den nobile

The favourite orchids, as selected by the members, were

BEST HYBRID



Cym Dorothy Stockstill owned by
Keith Palmer

BEST AFRICAN / MASCARENE



Eulophia speciosa
owned by Erhard Schmid

BEST NOVICE



Den delicatum owned by
Sheila Smith

BEST SPECIES



Den jenkinsii owned
by Erhard Schmid

The Night is full of Strange Surprises!

The vast majority of Orchid species have flowers that, when they open, remain open until pollinated or they reach the end of their lives. There are very few species whose flowers only open in full sunlight, and in cloudy or misty weather and at night, their flowers close. When the sunlight returns, the flowers open again. An example of this is found in the Australian genus *Thelymitra*, which are often known as Sun Orchids.

In 2011, an orchid was described which had been found on the Island of New Britain, very near to New Guinea. What made this orchid very special is that *Bulbophyllum nocturnum* is the only known orchid species whose flowers only open at night. The flowers only last one day and are believed to be pollinated by midges.



Bulbophyllum nocturnum.

Committee Members

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