

ANOS Sydney Directory

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The Australasian Native Orchid Society Sydney Group "The Orchidophile" February 2018

www.anossydney.wixsite.com/orchidophile

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We meet on the 3rd Friday of each month at 8.00pm in the Baulkham Hills Community Centre, 15 Conie Ave, Baulkham Hills, NSW

Next Meeting Friday 16 February 2018

Guest Speaker: Amy Martin – "The Duping of wasps by Cryptostylis orchids"

Growing Competition month. Bring in your plants!



Caladenia carnea (Pink Fingers Orchid) – Jan Mohandas

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All correspondence to The Orchidophile should be addressed to the Editor. The opinions expressed by the contributors to the newsletter are not necessarily those held by the Editor, committee or ANOS Sydney Group.

Our Club Bulletin Board

Our Guest Speaker: Amy Martin

Topic: "The Duping of wasps by Cryptostylis orchids: why don't sexually deceived species go extinct?"

One of the most fundamental relationships between animals are those that are mutually beneficial for each party: give-and-take interactions between members of different species that nevertheless provide quantifiable benefits to each party. A prominent and ecologically and economically important example of mutualism is pollination. Despite its importance, pollinators and plants can be in conflict over the time spent pollinating versus the amount of rewards provided. While less time pollinating with greater rewards is clearly optimal for the pollinator, it may be the reverse for the plant. In some cases, plants will cheat – providing no harvestable nectar and instead have floral cues that simply indicate a reward in order to promote pollination through deception.

Sexual deception is one of the many ways flowers may trick pollinators: fooling their pollinator into mating with them in order to transfer their pollen. New Zealand's and Australia's Tongue orchids (*Cryptostylis* species) are extreme deceivers they cause pollinators to ejaculate and waste sperm, yet they achieve exceptional pollination rates. Wasting sperm for these wasps is no trivial thing – and results in missed mating opportunities as males become sperm depleted. So *why don't pollinator populations, fooled by orchids, disappear?*

My PhD explores that question, we propose that it is because these wasps are haplo-diploid that they are able to withstand male sperm wastage. Haplodiploidy means that all males are haploid (from unfertilised eggs) and all females are diploid (from fertilised eggs). So, even when a female has no access to sperm, they can still reproduce – albeit all her offspring will be male. Interestingly, this overproduction of sons may even benefit orchid pollination: orchids will have more males to trick.

So far, I'm gathering data on this topic – so the truth of this story is yet to be revealed! Nevertheless, these orchids represent just another facet of Australia's interesting and sometimes peculiar, wildlife. Wildlife which can be found right in urban Sydney!



Bonnet orchid (Cryptostylis erecta)- Lane Cove

Membership Fees

Annual membership fees were due on 1st October last year 2017.

Fees can be paid by:

1. Direct deposit into the group's bank account. The details for this are as follows:

Account name: Australasian Native Orchid Society

Sydney Group BSB: 032289

Account Number: 130506

(Please enter your name in the relevant field when making online payments)

2. Cash directly to our **Membership Secretary** Joe Portelli at our meetings.

3. Posting a cheque or money order payable to ANOS Sydney Group, to:

The Membership Secretary ANOS Sydney Group 9 Alicia St Glenwood NSW 2768.

The cost of renewal is \$20 for Single or Joint Family Membership. If you have any queries please contact the Membership Secretary at anosydney@gmail.com.



Bonnet orchid with wasp - Lane Cove

Photos by Amy Martin

Minutes of the ANOS Sydney Group General Meeting Held at Baulkham Hills Community Centre – Friday 19 January 2018

Meeting opened: 8:20 pm by President, Andrew Locke welcomed members and visitors.

Apologies: Charlie Moraza, Graeme Russell.

A minute's silence was observed to remember ANOS members who passed this year - Bob Toombs and John English (ex-President of ANOS Sydney)

Correspondence:

In: Nil

<u>Treasurer's Report</u>: presented for the period of 12th December 2017 to 19th January 2018.

General Business:

The President indicated that:

The president indicated that:

- Members are encouraged to nominate for the Secretary position.
- From January 2018, the lucky door prize will only be given to members wearing their badges. Stickers were also provided for those who have forgotten, or do not have their badge. Name badge can be ordered from Andrew at approximately \$9.00. Six has been ordered and should be available in February
- Expression of interest as a committee member of ANOS
 Inc is welcomed and encouraged. Meetings are all via teleconferencing.



Sarco. ceceliae - Y. & S. Chan

- There is no popular vote for 2018 at this time as there has been sponsorship.
- Jan Mohandas has been traveling in Tasmania and sharing photos from his trip on Facebook. Two copies of his calendars are still available for purchase at \$15.00 each.
- There is no Orchidophile issue in January.
- Charlie is recovering from knee operation and the Society wishes him a speedy recovery.
- Membership fees for 2017/2018 are now due.
- Society T-shirts are still available for sale from Charlie –
 please see him at the next meeting.
- Nominates are encouraged for a guest speaker coordinator. Please approach John Klepetko for more information.

Meeting broke for refreshments.

Presentation by: George Oehm on improving orchid culture using mesh pots and charcoal/ash in potting mix.



Andrew Locke & George Oehm

Plant of the evening: *Sarco. ceciliae* – Y. & S. Chan.

Next meeting 16th February 2018. Guest Speaker: Amy Martin

Meeting closed at 9:30pm

Minutes of the ANOS Sydney Group General Meeting Held at Baulkham Hills Community Centre – Friday 15 December 2017

Meeting opened: 8:20 pm by President, Andrew Locke welcomed members and visitors.

Apologies: Charlie Moraza, Graeme Russell.

Minutes of previous (November) meeting: Moved that the minutes be accepted as printed in December's Orchidophile.

Moved: Andrew. Seconded: Charlie Moraza

Correspondence:

In: Copies of the Australian Garden Club Journal

Out: Nil

<u>Treasurer's Report</u>: presented for the period of 15th November 2017 to 12th December 2017.

General Business:

The President indicated that:

The president indicated that:

- Membership fees for 2017/2018 are now due.
- From January 2018, the lucky door prize will only be given to members wearing their badges. If you forgot to bring your badge on the night, please write your name on sticker (provided) and attach it to your shirt. A badge can be ordered from Andrew at approximately \$9.00.



Christmas Dinner & Raffle

- The secretary role is vacant and expressions of interest are invited.
- Representation at ANOS Inc as a committee member is welcomed and encouraged. Meetings are all via teleconferencing.
- December Orchidophile issue is now on website.
- A calendar of terrestrial orchids from Jan Mohandas' travels is available for sale at \$15.00 each.
- Shirts are still available for sale from Charlie.

The winners of the following shows were awarded prize monies and certificates:

- a. The 2017 Sarcanthinae Show.
- b. Australian Orchid Nursery Annual benching awards.
- c. The Australian Orchid Nursery Popular Vote Competition winner.
- Sponsors for these awards were acknowledged for their continued support.
- Plant of the evening: Dendrobium Alice's Rainbow –
 Y. & S. Chan
- Raffles and door prizes.
- Christmas Dinner

Meeting ended at 10:30pm Next meeting 19th January 2017.



Dendrobium Alice's Rainbow - Y. & S. Chan

Benching results for January 2018 (with Section Numbers)

Section 1 - Dendrobium species (1 entry)

1. Den. bigibbum 'Ronander' x 'Sunset' Y. & S. Chan

Section 2 - Dendrobium hybrids (1 entry)

1. Den. Wild Thing Y. & S. Chan

Section 4 - Dockrillia hybrids (2 entries)

- 1. Dock. Limestone L. & B. Dobson
- 2. Dock. Hot Coals C. Bradley

Section 6 - Sarcochilus species - novelty (4 entries)

- 1. Sarco. ceciliae Y. & S. Chan
- 2. Sarco. ceciliae C. Bradley
- 3. Sarco ceciliae C. Bradley

Section 8 - Sarcanthinae hybrids (5 entries)

- 1. Sarco. Bonanza C. Bradley
- 2. Sarco. Velvet B. Spurrs
- 3. Sarco. Eastment B. Spurrs

Section 9 - Other epiphytic species (6 entries)

- 1. Liparis nicholi L. & B. Dobson
- 2. Cadetia taylori L. & B. Dobson
- 3. Liparis coelogynoides L. & B. Dobson

Section 12 - Australasian hybrids (1 entry)

1. Den. Alice's Rainbow....Y. & S. Chan

Section 3 - Dockrillia species (0 entries)

Section 5 - Sarcochilus species - classic shape (0 entries)

Section 7 - Other Sarcanthinae species – non Sarcochilus (0 entries)

Section 10 - Other epiphytic hybrids (0 entries)

Section 11 - Australasian species (0 entries)

Section 13 - Pterostylis species (0 entries)

Section 14 - Diuris species (0 entries)

Section 15 - Caladenia species (0 entries)

Section 16 - Other terrestrial species (0 entries)

Section 17 - Terrestrial hybrids (0 entries)

Section 18 - First flowered seedlings (0 entries)

Plant of the evening: Sarco. ceciliae Y. & S. Chan



Sarco. ceciliae
Photo by Sau-wan Chan



info@australianorchids.com.au www.australianorchids.com.au



Den. Angus 2016
Australian Orchid Nursery

Australian Orchid Nursery Benching Competition 2017

Bryan Spurrs



Clover Bradley



Yin & Sau-wan Chan G. Steenbeeke B. V. Williams J. & Y. Villien P. Murn S. Holland M. Harrison L. & B. Dobson G. & S. Russell T. Miller C. Nidagal J. Portelli A. Locke R. & J. Schneiderit C. Shaw D. Banks R. Bishop K. Buckwell M. Daniels B. Moore G. Oehm J. Happ P. Wise

Australian Orchid Nursery Popular Vote **Competition 2017**

Yin & Sau-wan Chan



Bryan Spurrs



Michael Harrison C. Bradley G. Steenbeeke L. & B. Dobson P. Murn D. Tomich P. Wise B. Moore B. Williams C. Nidagal G. Russell G. Oehm M. Daniels S. Dunstan

Annual Point Score 2017

1	Bryan Spurrs	236
2	Clover Bradley	149
3	Yin & Sau-wan Chan	139
4	G. Steenbeeke	102
5	P. Murn	74
6	J. & Y. Villien	67
7	B. V. Williams	58
8	M. Harrison	54
9	L. & B. Dobson	39
10	S. Holland	38
11	G. & S. Russell	21
12	C. Nidagal	18
12	J. Portelli	18
13	T. Miller	17
14	R. & J. Schneiderit	12
15	C. Shaw	9
16	M. Daniels	7
16	A. Locke	7
16	P. Wise	7
17	K. Buckwell	6
17	M. Daniels	6
18	B. Moore	4
18	G. Oehm	4
18	Ј. Нарр	4
19	P. Wise	2

Sarcochilus & Native Orchid Show 2017 Presentation



David Butler
Most successful exhibitor
(Sid Batchelor Sash)



Clover Bradley Champion Sarcanthinae Species Sarcochilus hartmannii 'Sylvan Sun'



Yin & Sau-wan Chan
Champion Specimen Sarcanthinae Hybrid
Sarcochilus Kulnura Dragonfly



Bill & Lorraine Dobson

Champion Specimen Sarcanthinae Species

Plectorrhiza tridentata

Natural hybrid of Dendrobium fleckeri By Yin and Sau-wan Chan

In the article on *Dendrobium fleckeri* in the last (December 2017) issue of Ochidophile, we reported that, based on the literature available to us at the time, natural hybrid with *Dendrobium adae* so far has not been recorded. This is unusual in view of their similar habitats and often found in close vicinity. It was also postulated that most probably the two species would have different pollinators.

After publication of the article, Michael Harrison and David Banks kindly alerted us of a report in Australia Orchid Review (2014) on their discovery of a natural hybrid of *Dendrobium* fleckeri and Dendrobium adae in 2013 on the Mount Carbine Tableland, part of the Main Coast Range, a highland area where Dendrobium fleckeri and Dendrobium adae grow together at around 1200 metres. They have kindly provided us with a photograph of the flowers of the natural hybrid that they found. On examination, the flowers were more or less intermediate between the two presumed parent species. The lip shape tended more to *Dendrobium adae*, but the overall floral shape looked more like *Dendrobium fleckeri*. The fine white hairs along the mid-lobe margins of the labella which are characteristic of Dendrobium fleckeri were absent. The colour of the flowers was a soft, creamy bronze/orange. The plant was in bloom in November when they visited the area. Nearby were numerous flowering plants of *Dendrobium fleckeri*, but the *Dendrobium* adae had long since finished.

Whilst *Dendrobium fleckeri* and *Dendrobium adae* are certainly sympatric species above around 1000 metres, their flowering times do not coincide. *Dendrobium adae* flowers in August-September, and *Dendrobium fleckeri* in October-November.

Michael and David postulated that an out of season flowering of one of the parent species had been responsible for this natural hybrid. Existence of such a hybrid suggests that the pollinators for both *Dendrobium fleckeri* and *Dendrobium adae* are perhaps the same.



Natural hybrid of *Dendrobium fleckeri* and *Dendrobium adae* (Photo: Michael Harrison and David Banks)

ANOS Sydney January 2018 Plant of the evening Sarcochilus ceciliae – by Yin & Sau-wan Chan

The plant has 18 flowering spikes each carrying mostly 3-4 flowers, about 13 mm wide which is large for this species. The tepals have attractive bicolour of pale pink tips which become white in the centre. The flowers are fairly open and carry prominent white labella. Being a sequential bloomer, it has been in flower since late November and was towards the end of its current flowering season.

Interestingly, this Sarcochilus species was named after Cecillia Viennot van Masseyk, a French grower of epiphytes who apparently had never been to Australia. The orchid has a fairly wide geographical distribution along the eastern coast of Australia, found from the Hastings Rivers area in New South Wales to the Atherton Tableland in south eastern Cape York Peninsula. It grows on rocks and cliffs in rainforests and open forests usually above 450 m. Colour of the flower ranges from pale to bright pink to nearly red and rarely white.



Sarcochilus ceciliae Photo by Sau-wan Chan

Our plant originated from the Kroombit Tops in North Queensland. It grows in the sunniest corner of our north facing protected shade house. We avoid over watering of the plant during winter months. We had the plant for 5 years now and with time a vigorous root system has developed on top of the bark filled black plastic pot. Flowering spikes appear in around each November and with sequential flowering habit, the bloom lasts well into February next year.

Sarcochilus ceciliae has been extensively used in hybridisation. So far it has produced 23 primary hybrids and a total 266 progeny, with S. Kulnura Dragonfly, S. Allure and S. Elise amongst them.

In My Bushouse - By Bill Dobson

The weather has returned to normal summer with warm days and finally, for some, rain. This is good growing weather so make the most of it. Lots of plants are making new growths look after them as they are your flowers for later in the year.

After the blast of heat we had I have used some Eco Seaweed and will do this as a tonic to my plants again in February, March and April. I also have used some Eco fungicide to keep any problems to a minimum during a time of high humidity that we are currently experiencing and will continue to during Feb and March.

Be on the lookout for aphids as they will attack the new growths. Keep checking as although your plants are 'protected' by shadecloth this will NOT protect them from these little buggers who are so small they will just glide thru the mesh. Remember that if you leave them, they give birth to live young up to 100 per night, they can collapse a new growth in a couple of days. I use Pirimor® but you could just use Eco-Oil or Natrasoap to smother the little buggers.

I continue to repot where necessary. Normally I won't let a plant go for more than 3-4 years without repotting at this seems to give them a new zest of life and they get a spurt on. For those requiring the axe or saw I will leave until the end of this month when things should start to cool down a bit.

Plants in flower this month are *Dendrobium prenticei*, *Bulbophyllum macphersonii*, *Cadetia taylori*, *Sarcochilus ceciliae*, and *Sarcochilus seriterifus* an unpublished Sarcochilus similar to *S. ceciliae* but with a very hairy labellum.

All varieties of Dendrobium tetragonum are sending out new growths. As are Dendrobium jonesii and the roots just keep getting longer on the Plectorrhiza tridentata so keep up the humidity. Currently I am watering 3 times a week with nightly misting to cool down the plants and for the humidity. Fertilizing once a week checking on the sheaths of Dendrobium speciosum and folding back where necessary.

I caught two Dendrobium beetles on the wing yesterday just outside the Bushhouse, a reminder that I was due to spray this weekend so I did it that day as well. Remember you only have to spray the new growths until they harden up. Spray the whole pseudobulb as well as under and on the leaves. I had found 2 small grasshoppers in the Bushhouse and killed them and decided, for good measure, to spray in there as well so mixed up a batch of Bugmaster® and turned on the sprinkler. Haven't seen any bugs the last couple of nights. Something to watch out for is ants as with the new growths coming they will exude some sticky sugars and the ants will bring scale so don't forget to check under the leave, sort of out of sight out of mind.

That's all for now, enjoy the weather and look after yourselves and your plants.

Bill Dobson



Dendrobium Hot Coals
Clover & Bill Bradley



Liparis nicoli
Bill & Lorraine Dobson

An Orchidarium! What a great idea for apartments and homes with no garden space By Wayne Turville <u>Australian Orchid Nursery</u>

No room for a true glasshouse or maybe not even a shade house? What about an orchidarium?

It's basically an aquarium for orchids. These days with the low heat, low power usage LED lights it's so easy. Just buy as large an aquarium as you can afford for the position and away you go. A six foot aquarium costs only about \$200.

They may be heated or unheated. They may have a pond in the base for frogs or even a compartment for tropical fish! I had one as a teenager in my bedroom. It always smelt fresh and 'foresty' and 'earthy'.

There are whole website and forums dedicated to Orchidariums and they are huge in New York, London and Paris as well as Tokyo. Here's a link to a forum for starters:

https://www.orchidsforum.com/threads/orchidarium-planning.8347/



I do remember the frogs damaged a few plants ,so maybe avoid a big green tree frog. We have magnificent virgin cork bark that never rots to help decorate as well as all the moss you will need.







A layer of charcoal at the base is a must for a sweet healthy tank.



Re-printed with permission from Wayne Turville

Email Wayne: info@australianorchids.com.au

Terrestrial Orchids in Tasmania

By Jan & Margaret Mohandas

We had a great time in Tasmania as we were able to travel extensively to various parts of Tasmania and see many beautiful orchids. 12 orchid photos from our recent trip to Tasmania; 11 of the orchids from Tasmania (and just one we saw on the way there, in Baluk Willam Nature reserve near Melbourne).



Caladenia carnea (1st page photo – Ed.) NW TAS



Caladenia congesta Baluk William Nature Reserve, VIC



Calochilus herbaceous (Pale Beard Orchid) NW TAS



Thelymitra ixioides (Spotted Sun Orchid)
Latrobe, TAS



Microtis arenaria (Notched Onion orchid)

NW TAS



Thelymitra holmesii (Holmes' Sun Orchid)

Davenport, TAS

Terrestrial Orchids......(Cont.)



Thelymitra aristata (Great Sun Orchid) NW TAS



Thelymitra cyanea, well striped form (Swamp Sun Orchid) NW TAS



Caladenia tonelli (Robust Fingers Orchid) Latrobe, TAS



Sarcochilus australis (Gunn's Tree Orchid) SW TAS



Calochilus paludosus pale form (Strap Beard Orchid) NW TAS



Gastrodia sesamoides (Common Potato orchid) NW TAS

Dates to		
Remember		
16 February 2018	ANOS Sydney Group – Monthly Meeting 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm Baulkham Hills Community Centre, 15 Conie Ave, Baulkham Hills Guest Speaker: Amy Martin "The Duping of wasps by <i>Cryptostylis</i> orchids why don't sexually deceived species go extinct?".	
25 February 2018	Hills District Orchids Autumn Open Day	
	183 Windsor Rd Northmead NSW (Please park in Mary St. or Windermere Ave.) Vendors include: Tinonee Orchid Nursery & Macquarie Native Orchids	
16 March 2018	ANOS Sydney Group – Monthly Meeting 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm Baulkham Hills Community Centre, 15 Conie Ave, Baulkham Hills Guest Speaker: TBA	
7 – 8 April 2018	Collectors Plant Fair Hawkesbury Race Club, Clarendon Rd, Clarendon SAT: 8:00am – 4:00pm, SUN: 9:00am – 4:00pm	
20 April 2018	ANOS Sydney Group – Monthly Meeting 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm Baulkham Hills Community Centre, 15 Conie Ave, Baulkham Hills Guest Speaker: TBA	
18 - 20 May 2018	Orchids Out West Hawkesbury Race Club, Clarendon Rd, Clarendon FRI & SAT: 9:00am – 4:00pm, SUN: 9:00am – 3:00pm	
20 July 2018	Annual ANOS Sydney Group Auction Baulkham Hills Community Centre, 15 Conie Ave, Baulkham Hills 8:00pm to 10:00pm	
25 August 2018	ANOS Sydney Group Castle Hill Market Place display and sale Castle Hill Showground. 8:00am – 1:00pm	



