

# **KU-RING-GAI ORCHID SOCIETY INC. - Virtual Benching Issue 8, Nov. 2020**

Staying connected during the COVID-19 pandemic



A beautiful array of flowers from Lisa Harris' garden (last 2 from Kitt)



Sarcochilus hartmannii 'Beverley' - Lisa Harris An amazing specimen plant from Lisa & beautifully presented



Cattleya Julia 'Orange Diamond' – L Harris What striking colours!



Cymbidium Unknown Lisa Harris



Phaius Lady Ramona Harris Lisa Harris



Epi. Candy Valley Lisa Harris



Cymbidium Unknown Lisa Harris



Cattleya Unk. - L Harris



Den. species Unk. - Lisa Harris



Aeridovanda Mundyi - L Harris C. Unknown - L Harris





Sc. Cariad's Mini - Quinee 'Angel Kiss' BM/JOGA - L Harris



Dendrobium farmeri Lisa Harris



Dendrobium Unknown Kitt & Tony Reyes



Den. White Pearl Kitt & Tony Reyes

## Welcome to tea & biscuits in Lee Payne's garden – what dramatic Dendrobiums Lee has grown!



A selection of *Sarcochilus* Lee Payne



Dendrobium lindleyi - Lee Payne Colourful & rewarding – waited 2 years to bloom



Dendrobium densiflorum Lee Payne



Bc. Beautiful Morning Lee Payne



Pot. Topp That 'Taylor Made' x Ctt. Aussie Sunset Lee Payne



Cattleya mossiae Lee Payne



Cymbidium Little Beauty Lee Payne



Dockrilla Unknown Lee Payne



*Den. victoria reginae* hybrid DL



Dendrobium fuerstenbergianum Gowan Stewart

Dendrobium victoriae-reginae, this beauty grown by Gowan Stewart, is commonly known as Queen Victoria's Dendrobium & is endemic to the montane ecosystem of the Philippines. It commonly grows with its roots embedded in the moss covered trunks of the Stone Oak (*Lithocarpus*) at elevations of 1300 to 2700 meters. *Lithocarpus* are part of the beech family Fagaceae, they are found in temperate areas, are evergreen & cannot tolerate freezing temperatures or seasonal droughts.



Like their hosts, *Den. victoriae-reginae* like to be kept humid & moist throughout the year with plenty of air movement, in a shaded environment. Producing elegant clusters of purple to violet flowers with muted to distinct stripes in the petals & sepals drawing your eye to the centre of the bloom which tapers to white. Light & temperature can vary the intensity of the colour. Long lasting flowers ranging from 2.5 to 4cm emerge from the sides of the pendulous pseudobulbs. The plant can reportedly produce flowers more than once a year. http://www.orchidspecies.com/ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/

https://akatsukaorchid.com/

## A beautiful selection of Sarcochilus & Epidendrums from Jessie Koh



Sarcochilus Charm (Sarc. Bernice Klein x Fitzhart) Jessie Koh



Sarcochilus Fitzhart Jessie Koh



Sarcochilus Unknown Jessie Koh



Epidendrum secundum Jessie Koh



Epi. Wedding Valley 'Sakura Komachi' Jessie Koh



Epidendrum secundum Jessie Koh



Ahh - who remembers our last meeting it seems so long ago! Way back in March we met at the hall & even by that time our attendance was down due to the concerns emerging over Covid. During that meeting we started our growing competition with some lovely Sarcochilus seedlings purchased from Barritta Orchids. The cross was Sarcochilus Kulnura Dazzel 'Multi purple' x Kulnura Dazzel 'Deep Velvet'.

### ← This photo of the parents was taken from the Barritta Orchid website.

Numerous seedlings were purchased on the night, a few have subsequently found new homes, but as many members were not present, others have been 'reserved' & are currently receiving expert care in their foster home patiently awaiting relocation. Sadly mine has not bloomed yet ... maybe next year. If you bought one, or have one in reserve, below are some examples of the resulting outcomes – what pretty little things they are.





Bronwyn Yager has nurtured this little beauty with gorgeous deep red colouring & a lovely pattern on the back of the petals. Very well grown Browyn!



These are some of the plants currently residing in devoted foster care. Again, a lovely array of colouring & patterns ..... hmm do you wonder what yours is going to look like?



← Onc. Kalihi – T & P Look at the lovely home these orchids have to grow in.

**V** Pot. Free spirit 'Carmela' − T & P



Wow – I love this frilly, intriguing looking bloom. To complement its artistic appearance, according to Lee it has a most beautiful lime fragrance. On investigation, I found that like many orchids there has been uncertainty over its



classification. In 1918 Rudolph Schlechter recognised two species that displayed enough taxonomical differences from *Cattleya*, *Laelia* and *Brassavola* to be listed as a separate genus. Those two species were *Rhyncholaelia digbyana & Rl*. *Glauca*. With light green to creamy white flowers that can be up to 17.5cm, the two species can be easily distinguished with *Rl*. *digbyana* having a deeply fringed lip whereas Rl. *glauca* has a fringless lip. *Rl*. *digbyana* is a hot to warm growing epiphyte found in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras & Belize at elevations of 10 to 1000 meters.

Schlechter designated the term *Rhyncholaelia* from the Greek word rhynchos (snout, bill or beak). The genus name *Laelia* was included in reference to the seed capsule which was considered to be a key aspect in the generic separation. There continues to be debate amongst the experts but *Rhyncholaelia* is considered to be the current accepted generic name.

There is also an interesting Aussie reference incorporating *Rhynchos* – in one of our most unique animals .... the monotreme *Ornithorhyncus anatinus*. *Ornitho* from the Greek *ornis* meaning bird, *rhynkhos* meaning snout & *anatinus*, which in Latin means duck-like. So we have a duck-like, bird snout. What does that sound like - our wonderfully unique platypus! If you remember your school lessons, the

first time a platypus specimen was sent back to Europe, scientists thought it was so weird it must be a hoax, understandable - who'd have thought an egg laying creature with a duck-bill & beaver-tail was real. The English botanist & zoologist George Shaw's initial conclusion was "It is impossible not to entertain some doubts as to the genuine nature of the animal" ..... perhaps this was the unintended origin of our famous Aussie larrikin reputation.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/4547151.stm https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ https://www.aos.org/







Neo falcata 'Gofukiran' - G Stewart

Lc. Mari's Song x Sc. Beaufort – T & P

Oncidium ampliatum - G Stewart



Cattleya Intermedia Jenny Richardson



Dendrobium Sailor Boy 'Pinky' purchased at KOS auction – Jenny R



*Den.* Shinonome 7 Show Rainbow – Jenny Richardson



Leptotes bicolor 4N
The 1st time blooming, 5 cm in
diameter flower arising from the base
of leaf. It's mounted, a miniature plant
with pencil-like leaves - Lina Huang



Fdk. After Dark 'SVO Black Pearl'
"This is the 1st man-made nearly
pure black orchid." information
from OrchidWeb. It is fragrant.
Lina Huang



Dendrobium keithii It has succulent-like flat leaves. There are 10 pale green tiny flowers along one stem, 1 cm size in diameter. Lina Huang





Epilaeliocattleya Merry Green - Fred Gorginian

As well as having the most gorgeous contrasting colours, Fred says this one also has a delightful fragrance.



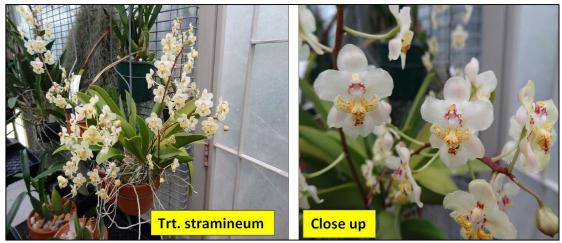
Dendrobium Felicity Fortescue 'Pink Lady' I find its flowers consistently open when my other soft canes are finishing - Chris Wilson

## Three amazing specimen plants from T & P



↑ This plant has 9 racemes and 135 flowers

Capanemia uliginosa is a warm to cool growing epiphyte found on mossy or lichen covered branches of trees near streams at elevations around 500 meters, in the wet montane forests of Brazil, particularly in Minas Gerais & Rio de Janiero. It's natural environment earning it the common name 'The Swamp Dwelling Capanemia'. Numerous 1cm flowers, white with yellow on the lip toward the column, cascade down the length of thin, pliable, pendulous inflorescences. The flowers descend in the opposite direction to the bean like leaves (or **terete** to use the botanical term, meaning it has a circular or roughly circular cross section with a single surface wrapping around it, which on mature leaves of Capanemia uliginosa includes a longitudinal grove), which grow upwards reaching for the light, producing a very artistic effect when the plant is in bloom. As with many orchids its name is not always agreed upon & whilst it is sometimes quoted as a synonym of Capanemia superfula Jay Pfahl reports there appear to be differences & recommends further investigation is required. https://www.orchids.org/



These used to be called mule ear Oncidiums, it is a relatively recent change to *Trichocentrum*.





Oncidium Rainer ..... with her arms outstretched and a billowing, swirling skirt you can see why these orchids are also called Dancing Lady





Lc. Trick or Treat 'Orange Beauty' What a stunning colour!

Cymbidium Cricket (Cym. devonianum x madidum) for more info refer to the write up in the Nov. 20 bulletin. It certainly produces an impressive, cascading display when grown well.

**♦** Polystachya pubescens











Gomesa marshalliana This plant is growing in charcoal - Chris Wilson

Gomesa marshalliana x (marshalliana x forbesii) 'Alpha' - Chris Wilson (one of Chris' crosses) This plant is growing in cork with a little gravel



Bifrenaria harrisoniae var. alba Has a sweet, gentle, citrus scent Jenny Richardson



Lycaste aromatica
Deciduous plant, flowers
from leaveless pseudobulbs
– beware the mean spikes
when repotting! – Jenny R



Den. fimbriatum var. occulatum As mentioned in last months bulletin, a very popular orchid – perhaps many of us share a piece from the same importation - Chris Wilson



Coelogyne fragrans
Jenny Richardson



*Den.* Hanky Panky – Jessie Koh seven spikes – what a beauty!



Pholidota chinensis Jessie Koh



*Dendrobium loddigesii* – Dennys & Janine Angove SIOS purchase – first flowering



Den. Nora Tokunaga x abberans first flowering....raffle plant - Dennys & Janine Angove



Den. chrysotoxum - DL



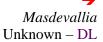
*Epi*. Pacific Sparkler 'Satama' x *Epi*. Pacific Peacock 'Plum Pretty' - DL



Dendrobium friedericksianum Jenny Richardson



← Masdevallia Earl Bishop – DL



The shape of this one is intriguing – an enticing tunnel for an unsuspecting pollinator no doubt





Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance' - DL Apparently it smells like chocolate – yum!







Den fimbriatum var. occlatum Lina Huang



*Den.* Gowan' s Tangelo – DL (*Den. mohlianum* × *melinanthum*)



Den perardii Lina Huang



This month sees some magnificent Dendrobium specimen plants from several members. An extremely opulent looking plant in full bloom.

← Den thyrsiflorum D&J Angove, purchased at a species auction

*Den. densiflorum* → Lee Payne





Dendrobium thrysiflorum
DL

What an impressive specimen plant this is & perhaps we would not have seen it at a meeting – would be a tad difficult to transport!





Den. Mousmee Betty Ng



Dendrobium thyrsiflorum Betty Ng



Dendrobium densiflorum Lee Payne

From the home of Lina Huang, including several flowering for the first time - rewarding years of nurturing & waiting. With comments from Lina



Rodrumnia Willowbank Freckles A miniature plant, mounted. The flowers are 2.5 cm in diameter and open up with a pale colour, then turn pink after some days.



Dendrobium lindleyi The 1<sup>st</sup> time blooming. It has 3 flower spikes, each spike carries 10 flowers. Flower size is 3 cm in diameter.



Odontocidium Lorraine's 14<sup>th</sup> WOC 'Hawaii' A 70 cm tall flower spike with branches carry 20 flowers, size 7 cm in diameter.



Onc. incurvum x leucochilum A median size plant produces a 2 meters long flower spike with branches that carry 40 small, 3 cm wide and 4 cm vertical, flowers.



Cattleya skinneri var. occulata alba The 1<sup>st</sup> time blooming with pure white flowers, 9 cm in diameter.



Eria convallarioides
The 1<sup>st</sup> time blooming. The flower spike
is 15 cm long, arises from the side of
pseudobulb. It carries many, tiny white
with pale pink margin flowers.



*Ascf.* Cherry Blossom (*Neof. falcata* lba x *Asctm. ampullaceum*)



Oncidium Croesus
The 1<sup>st</sup> time blooming, a small plant



Zygopabstia Dragon Kitten
The flowers are 6 cm in diameter