

THE SPECIES ORCHID SOCIETY OF WA (INC.)

[http://members.iinet.net.au/~emntee/species Newsletter.htm](http://members.iinet.net.au/~emntee/species%20Newsletter.htm)



Vol 34 No 6 November 2022



Anne O'Callaghan Award October 2022
Dendrobium nobile Virginale
Helen

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING Tuesday 8 November

Contents

2. October meeting minutes
4. Noticeboard
5. Notes from your Committee
6. Monthly sale plant
7. Why do we need to know about orchid classification and nomenclature rules?
8. Plants displayed
12. The Subtribe Pleurothaliidinae



MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

11 October 2022 7.35pm

Present: 17 members as per register.

Apologies: 9 as per register.

Visitors: 2

New members: Tuyen

Minutes: Acceptance of minutes from September meeting moved Ray, seconded Helen. Carried.

Business Arising: Nil

Financial Report: Adrian José presented the finance report as at 30 September 2022. Balance \$7,870.64. Acceptance moved Bruce, seconded Helen. Carried

Business Arising: Nil

Correspondence:

Inwards:

- Orchids WA GM draft minutes, 2021 AGM minutes, 2022 AGM agenda, call for committee nominations, annual financial reports
- City of Canning booking renewal
- GCA AGM report
- Notice of on-line auction of Ian Duncan's *Angraecum sequipidale*
- Vodien - Confirmation of registration of web domain

Outwards:

- Application to Vodien for web domain
- Committee – draft committee meeting agenda and minutes, draft GM agenda and minutes, Associations on-line newsletter and advice on web domains, City of Canning booking renewal, GCA AGM report and papers, AOF AGM agenda and papers, SOSWA internet domain application

Acceptance of correspondence report

moved Ray, seconded Margaret. Carried.

Business Arising: Nil

General Business:

Auction of Tony Watkinson's orchid collection

- The auction of Tony's orchid collection is being jointly arranged by the Wanneroo/ Joondalup Orchid Society, Northern Districts Orchid Society and the Species Orchid Society for Sunday 30 October.
- Tony has an extensive collection of species and hybrid orchids. 30 plants in flower were sold at the Northern Orchid and Garden Fair, and the remainder will be offered for sale at the auction to be held at Tony & Mavis' home. A list of individual orchids and composite lots will be circulated prior to the auction.
- The clash with the Species Society home visit on the same day was resolved as the host, Lynne is happy for us to come to her on Saturday 29 October.
- Members approved the purchase of some of the species orchids at the auction for future raffle prizes.

AOCC & Perth International Orchid Fair 2024

- Bruce updated members on the planning for this event. He advised that the date may yet change, and that alternative venues to PCEC are being investigated to reduce the overall cost as the AOCC only had 130 registrants.
- Prof Kingsley Dixon is to provide advice on the likely number of registrations for the International Orchid Conservation Conference so that we can revise the

budget.

- We are seeking help planning this event following Tony's passing, there are now only two of us. If you are interested in being involved, please speak to Bruce or Ken

Species Society domain and website management

- Adrian advised that Ken Jones applied for registration speciesorchidsocietywa.com. We investigated applying for speciesorchidsocietywa.au, but as we do not have an ABN or CAN we aren't eligible to do so.
- We will need to transfer the current SOSWA website created and administered by Tony as part of his personal iinet subscription to this new domain and are therefore seeking a webmaster to maintain and administer the website that Tony created and managed for many years at no cost to the society. If you are able to help, but need more information, please speak to a member of the committee.

Orchids Western Australia (Inc.)

- The next meeting of Orchids WA is the AGM.
- Tony was the Assistant Secretary, and our alternate Orchids WA delegate, and we will need to identify another member to take on this responsibility in case Mavis is unable to attend a meeting. Neither of these responsibilities are onerous.
- Orchids WA meets four times per year, most often in Mandurah so that Bunbury, Busselton and Albany delegates only need to travel part of the way to Perth. If you are willing to take on either of these responsibilities, please let a committee member know of your interest.

Flask Purchase

- Ken advised that the Society purchased 10 flasks from Mavis as approved at the last

GM and had been given 6 flasks at no charge by Matt from Ten Shin Gardens. He thanked Tara, Norm, Bruce, Adrian and Peter who had offered to deflask and grow on these seedlings -

2023 Home Visit Program

- Members thanked Mavis who has advised that she is happy to continue planning the home visit program. Please let her know if you are willing to host a home visit in 2023.

Donations

- Victor donated a flowering plant of *Brassavola nodosa* that he got from Chris for the raffle, and Arnold donated five 240vac-12vdc transformers that he purchased at a swap meet for members wanting to set up grow boxes.

September Home Visit:

- Special thanks to Jacqui for the orchid walk in King's Park that was enjoyed by 16 members and 2 visitors. Members unanimously agreed to make this a regular part of our future home visit program. Graham also expressed sincere appreciation for the very professional way that Jacqui conducted the visit.

Membership Dues

- The Society's financial year ended 28 February. You can pay the Treasurer or by EFT to the Society's bank account account at Bendigo Bank, BSB 633-000, account 122491988 including your surname in the transfer.

NOTICEBOARD

FORTH- COMING EVENTS

Home visits:

At 10 am on the Sunday after the fourth Thursday of each month. Please bring chairs and food to share.

- * 24 Nov Harry, Kelmscott
- * 28 Jan Ezi-Gro Orchids, Landsdale

MARKETPLACE - FOR SALE/WANTED

Karl would like to purchase a plant of *Ceratocentron fessellii*. If you have a plant for sale, please contact Karl on 0432 956 885 or e-mail karl.khlee@gmail.com.

Harry would like to buy plants of *Cattleya purpurata* var. *werkhauseri* and *Cattleya neokautskyi*. Contact Harry on 0412 403 696 or harry.ashton@live.com.au.

Lynn would like to purchase *Section Latouria Dendrobium* orchids. Contact Lynn on 0414 922 923 or contrarymiss@hotmail.com.

President: Adrian

Vice President: Murray

Treasurer: Adrian

Secretary: Ken Jones
210 Hermitage Drive, The Vines
6069. Phone: 9296 1765
e-mail: kcjones@tpg.com.au

Editor: Ken Jones

Committee: Maxine

Graham Paul
Peter

Quiet Achievers

- 2013 Ian
- 2014 Chris (dec'd)
- 2015 Margaret
- 2016 Tom & Pat

Life Members

- Graham & Margaret
- Chris (dec'd)
- Barry (dec'd)
- Gordon (dec'd)
- Maxine
- Ken & Chris
- Adrian & Deanna
- Joan (dec'd) & Ted (dec'd)
- Trevor (dec'd)
- Neville (dec'd)
- Noel (dec'd) & Eva
- Tony (dec'd) & Mavis
- Barry (dec'd)

- 2017 Charly & Gerda
- 2018 Paul
- 2020 Adrian & Deanna
- 2021 John

Anne O'Callaghan Cultural Award:

Awarded to Helen for her plant of *Dendrobium nobile* Virginalis

Raffle: Ray, Adrian, Bruce, Helen, Arnold

Badge Prize: Tara

Meeting closed: 9.45pm

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

- **Meetings and Home Visits**

For those members who still feel apprehensive about COVID-19, we encourage you to wear a mask, and maintain social distancing.

- **Special raffle**

A special raffle for a large framed print of hand painted Western Australian terrestrial orchids will be raffled at the October & November general meetings and October home visit. This print was purchased and framed by Tony & Mavis from a vendor at the Orchid & Garden Fair held at Mirrabooka. It would look great on your wall. Tickets are \$2.

- **November home visit**

The November home visit will be hosted by Harry, the first time that we have visited Harry's home. Back from his trip to Madagascar, I am sure that Harry will have some interesting

observations and experiences to recount to us.

- **Monthly sale plants and raffle plants.**

If you have species orchids that are surplus to your needs, or have successfully grown species orchids from flask that you wish to sell, the Society is always looking for future supplies of monthly sale plants (minimum of 20 plants) and raffle plants. Please contact a member of the committee if you are able to help.

- **Christmas Meeting**

As we have done for many years, our December meeting will be our Christmas party. While there will be no monthly plant sale or raffle, we plan to be able to give every member a free species orchid. If you are able to donate a species orchid or two for our orchid 'Chris Cringle' please do so. But for those of you new to the Society, or still building your collection, we understand that you may not have any plants to donate. We will also use some plants from those that we are growing on from flask, or surplus sales plants

MONTHLY PLANT

Phalaenopsis heiroglyphica

Country of origin: Philippines

Description: Medium sized , hot to warm epiphyte.

Difficulty: This species requires some winter protection from frosts.



Photo source: <https://orchidroots.com/detail/information/?pid=151224&role=pub>

Cost: \$10.00

Phalaenopsis heiroglyphica [Rchb.f] Sweet years.

1969 *Subgenus Phalaenopsis, Section Polychilos* [Breda] Rchb.f

This month's species comes from the Philippines where it can be found on the islands of Polillo and Palawan in shady humid forests up to 500m above sea level.

They were grown from a Rosella Orchids flask by Tony and the plants are now nearing flowering size seedlings after individual potting in December 2021.

This is a medium sized, hot to warm pendant epiphyte with a short stem enveloped by imbricating leaf bases carrying a few to many, somewhat coriaceous, oblong-ligulate, acute to obtuse leaves.

Flowering takes place in spring on a suberect to arching, up to 30 cm racemose or paniculate inflorescence of long-lasting, glossy, showy, rose scented, simultaneously opening flowers. If the inflorescence remains green and undamaged, it may reflower in successive

As a monopodial, this species does not have a pseudobulb, but the somewhat fleshy leaves are attractive to many insect pests, so should be grown in an environment with constant air movement and heavy summer shade. Regular watering during the hot summer months is critical to maintaining leaf growth, with heavier shading than winter to minimise leaf burn. Remember, as a monopodial, *Phalaenopsis* orchids do not have pseudobulbs and insect or other damage to the top leaves can be fatal for your plant. Similarly, if air movement is inadequate, fungal pathogens can severely damage these small *Phalaenopsis* species.

Why do we need to know about orchid classification and nomenclature rules?

Over the last few years, and more recently while talking to people at the AOCC orchid show in Brisbane, it became clear that most of the public, and many long-time orchid growers have little understanding of the classification process used to classify/identify all living organisms, and where orchids as a flowering herb fit in that structure.

All living organisms (including orchids) are identified through a classification process designed to create order rather than chaos. However, I suspect that many orchid growers will disagree particularly when orchids are renamed or reclassified. By way of example, the recent re-classification of the genus *Dendrochilum* to *Coelogyne* has led to vigorous debate between taxonomists, and frustration for species orchid growers. There were many *Dendrochilum* species in the show and displays in Brisbane, but I did not see any where the genus had been changed to *Coelogyne*. Less recently, the *Cattleya* species *bowringiana*, *skinneri* and *aurantiaca* were reclassified to the genus *Guarianthe*.

At the highest level, the classification system for all living organisms consists of five kingdoms:

1. Monera - *prokaryotes* are unicellular organisms that lack membrane-bound structures, the most noteworthy of which is the nucleus.
2. Protista single-celled *eukaryotes* - *eukaryotes* are organisms whose cells have a nucleus and other organelles enclosed by a plasma membrane
3. Fungi - fungus and related organisms
4. Animalia – the animals
5. Plantae – the plants

As orchid growers, we are most interested in the fifth of these kingdoms, Plantae.

Each of the five kingdoms have a further set of rule-based hierarchical systems to enable the accurate and objective identification of all the individual species.

As orchid growers, our interest is orchid plants and the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (ICBN) that sets out the rules for classification and naming of plants is the system we need to work with: The following table sets out this framework showing higher (bold) and subordinate (not bold) relationships. However, it needs to be said that there is not universal agreement between taxonomists about all the elements of this framework, and its hierarchical relationships and structure.

Graham & Margaret

Diuris sulphurea
Serapias lingua
Serapias neglecta
Serapias vomeracea

Ken & Chris

Ansellia Africana (2)
Bletilla striata
Cattleya quadricolor ?
Coelogyne lawrenceana
Dendrobium aphyllum
Dendrobium lindleyi
Dendrochilum latifolium
Gaurianthe aurantiaca
Paphiopedilum appletonianum
Paphiopedilum gratixianum
Paphiopedilum hirsutissimum
Phalaenopsis mariae **Fasciata**

Tara

Coelogyne flaccida
Ludisia discolor
Serapias Olbia
Serapias spp

Norm

Dendrobium x delicatum
Dendrobium kingianum
Dendrobium x suffusum
Encyclia patens
Pterostylis baptistii

Helen

Dendrobium nobile Virginalae
Gaurianthe aurantiaca

Ray

Vanda merrillii

MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED October 2022



Encyclia patens
Norm



Cattleya quadricolor
Ken & Chris



Coelogyne lawrenceana
Ken & Chris



Vanda merrillii
Ray

MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED October 2022



Dendrobium linawianum
Ken & Chris



Dendrobium lindleyi
Ken & Chris

<i>Rank</i>	<i>ending</i>	<i>example</i>
Kingdom		
Division	-phyta	Spermatophyta
Subdivision	-phytina	Magnoliophytina
Class	-opsida	Liliopsida
Subclass	-idae	Lillidae
Order	-ales	Orchidales
Suborder	-ineae	
Family	-aceae	Orchidaceae
Subfamily	-oideae	Orchidoideae
Tribe	-eae	Orchideae
Subtribe	-inae	Orchidinae
Genus		
Subgenus		
Section		
Series		
Species		
Subspecies (subsp or ssp)		
Variety (var.)		
Subvariety (subvar.)		
Form (f.)		

G.C Morrison (1991) refers to four divisions in the kingdom Plantae, Thallophyta, Bryophyta, Pteridophyta and Spermatophyta. As orchid growers, we are most interested in plants in the Division *Spermatophyta* which includes all the seed-bearing plants. In the rank Class, there are two groups, Dicotyledon and Monocotyledon and we are interested in the Monocotyledon group that includes the flowering plants such as grasses, lilies, orchids and similar flowering plants that have floral parts in multiples of three, and do not have stem thickening by the presence of cambium tissue (bark).

In modern terminology, the Dicotyledons are known as Magnoliopsida and the Monocotyledons are known as Liliopsida that includes four Subclasses, one of which is Orchidales.

The Family Orchidaceae is considered to encompass all the orchids, although once again

this view is not universally accepted by all taxonomists, some that argue that there are additional Families that should be included. However, the most widely accepted view is that there are six Subfamilies:

1. Apostasiodeae – includes the primitive extant orchids *Apostasia* and *Neuwiedia*
2. Cyripedioideae – a primitive group of orchids with two anthers (diandrous) and sticky pollinia. Includes *Paphiopedilum*, *Cyripedium*, *Phragmipedium*, and *Selenipedium*.
3. Neottioideae – members are like Cyripedioideae, but are monandrous, and some are saprophytic.
4. Spiranthoideae – monandrous orchids with woody to herbaceous stems, without swollen rootstocks. Widely variable plants that are geophytic. This Subfamily includes the 'Jewel Orchids'.
5. Orchidioidae – monandrous orchids with swollen rootstocks found in southern Australia, South Africa and South America, and include the genera *Ophrys* and *Orchis* in Europe.
6. Epidendroidae – the largest Subfamily and the one of most interest to orchid growers. This is a remarkably diverse group with differing growth habits and general morphology. T

They are further divided into many Tribes and Subtribes. The table hereunder includes the most commonly grown Tribes, Subtribes and Genera but is not comprehensive as new genera are described and classified.

Tribe	Subtribe	Genera
Arethuseae	Bletiinae	<i>Arundina</i> , <i>Bletilla</i> , <i>Calanthe</i> , <i>Chysis</i> , <i>Phaius</i> , <i>Spathoglottis</i>
Epidendreae	Eriinae	<i>Ceratosyilis</i> , <i>Erina</i>
	Laeliinae	<i>Brassavola</i> , <i>Cattleya</i> , <i>Encyclia</i> , <i>Epidendrum</i> , <i>Laelia</i> , <i>Nagliella</i>
	Pleurothallidinae	<i>Dracula</i> , <i>Masdevallia</i> , <i>Pleurothallis</i> ,
Dendrobieae	Coelogykinae	<i>Coelogyne</i> , <i>Pholidota</i>
	Dendrobiinae	<i>Cadetia</i> , <i>Dendrobium</i> , <i>Diplocaulobium</i>
	Bulbophyllinae	<i>Bulbophyllum</i>
Cymbideae	Cyrtopodiinae	<i>Ansellia</i> , <i>Chrysoglossum</i> , <i>Cymbidium</i> , <i>Cyrtopodium</i> , <i>Grammangis</i> , <i>Grammatophyllum</i>
	Catasetinae	<i>Catasetum</i> , <i>Cynoches</i> , <i>Mormodes</i>
	Stanhopeinae	<i>Coryanthes</i> , <i>Gongora</i> , <i>Stanhopea</i>

Vandeae	Sarcanthinae	<i>Aerides</i> , <i>Amesiella</i> , <i>Arachnis</i> , <i>Ascocentrum</i> , <i>Cleisostoma</i> , <i>Doritis</i> , <i>Gastrochilus</i> , <i>Kingidium</i> , <i>Phalaenopsis</i> , <i>Renanthera</i> , <i>Rhynchosstylis</i> , <i>Robiquetia</i> , <i>Sarcochilus</i> , <i>Trichoglottis</i> , <i>Vanda</i>
	Angraecinae	<i>Aeranthes</i> , <i>Angraecum</i> , <i>Jumellea</i> , <i>Sobenikioffia</i>
	Aerangidinae	<i>Aerangis</i> , <i>Diaphenanthè</i> , <i>Rangaeris</i>
Maxillarieae	Zygopetalinae	<i>Zygopetalum</i>
	Biffrenariinae	<i>Bifrenaria</i>
	Lycastinae	<i>Anguloa</i> , <i>Lycaste</i>
	Maxillariinae	<i>Maxillaria</i> , <i>Scuticara</i> , <i>Trigonidium</i>
Oncidieae	Oncidiiniinae	<i>Brassia</i> , <i>Miltonia</i> , <i>Odontoglossum</i> , <i>Oncidium</i> , <i>Rossioglossum</i> , <i>Trichopilia</i>

So, you might well ask why do I need to know all this? If all we want to do is grow and flower our orchids, it is overkill and is mind-numbing. However, if we are interested in why our species orchids appear where they do and come from, and to what other orchids they are related, then this knowledge is helpful.

The Subtribe Pleurothalidinae

As many of you know, I am particularly interested in orchids in Subtribe Pleurothalidinae. While the most grown, and florally spectacular genera include *Dracula*, *Masdevallia* and *Pleurothallis*, there are many, many more genera in this Subtribe.

While attending the 2017 WOC in Ecuador, I attended a lecture delivered by Franco Pupulin entitled ‘How many species of Pleurothalidinae are there?’, and by Adam P Karremans entitled ‘the Pleurothalidinae: extremely high speciation driven by pollinator adaption’. Both presenters stated a shared belief that there were at least as many unidentified Pleurothalidinae as those that had been formally identified, and that given the absence of commercial interest in many of the small, insignificant plants and flowers plus the effect of continuous habitat destruction, there are many that might never be formally described and identified.

The research paper published in Academia, *Pleurothalidinae: How Many Genera?* By Wesley E Higgins and Norris H Williams asserts that presently the Neotropical orchid subtribe Pleurothalidinae consists of more than 4,000 species, about 16% of Orchidaceae (ref. World Checklist of Monocotyledons 2004). They are found from Florida to Argentina with interesting disjunctions (variations) in Brazil and the Lesser Antilles with greatest diversity in Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia. At the time of publication, Luer’s classification recognised more than 4,100 species in 60 genera, although Chase et al. recognised only 32 genera including two relocated from Laeliinae.

When they compared the classification schemes of the subtribe by Pridgeon, Chase and Luer, they found that the differences were more substantial than just splitting and lumping. . Taking into account recent research published by Garay, Szlachetko, Barros, and Archila, an additional 20 monotypic genera were described, resulting in 116 generic names in current use, although with differing constraints for the genera.

To conclude this this article, below and over the next month or so, I will write up and include photos of some of the members of this Subfamily. While some are reasonably available, many are not and are not often seen in collections. Some species are tiny, others larger, and some such as *Dracula simia* well known.

***Acianthera* (300 accepted species)**

Acianthera crinita Barb. Rodr. Pridgeon & M.W. Chase 2001 comes from the southeast Atlantic forests of Brazil and Bolivia at 700-900m in Brazil and 1,800-2,000 m in Bolivia where it is found as mini-miniature sized, warm to cool slow growing epiphyte in humid and shady habitats. Spreading ramicauls enveloped completely by sheaths carrying a single, apical, obovate, conduplicate, yellowish-olive green speckled purple leaf. Flowering in early summer occurs on 1.5-1.7cm successively flowered inflorescence with 0.7-0.9cm flowers. Its common name is the Long Haired Pleurothallis.



Photo source: <http://www.orchidspecies.com/pleurcrinita.htm>

Acianthera pubescens (Lindl.) Pridgeon & M.W. Chase 2001 comes from the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, French Guiana, Surinam, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina where it grows in dense humid forests 500-1,900m as a highly variable, miniature sized, unifoliate, warm to cool growing epiphytic species. Flowering occurs throughout the year on an apical, fasciculate, 4.5cm long, few flowered racemose inflorescence with unpleasant fragrance flowers held close to mid leaf. Its common name is the Fine Haired Pleurothallis



Photo source: <https://powo.science.kew.org/taxon/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:1112900-2>

Acianthera strupifolia Lindl. (Lindl.) Pridgeon & M.W. Chase 2001 comes from Peru and Brazil as a deciduous leaved, hot to cool growing epiphyte that blooms in autumn and winter. Its common name is the Strap-Shaped Leaf Pleurothallis.



Photo source: <https://www.ecuagenera.com/Acianthera-strupifolia/en>

Contd. next month

ABOUT US

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings held on the second Tuesday of each month at Wilson Community Hall, Braibrise St, Wilson commencing 7.45 pm. Usually, the short formal meeting is followed by plant descriptions given by members. Supper follows to allow member's time to socialise and discuss orchids. All visitors are very welcome

Membership Fees

Family \$30 pa. For first year only, new family members will need to purchase two name badges. Badges come in two versions - pin fastening \$11.50 or magnet fastening \$13.50 [*Please indicate preference*]

Single \$20.00 pa. For first year only, new members will need to purchase a name badge. Badges come in two versions - pin fastening \$11.50 or magnet fastening \$13.50. [*Please indicate preference*]

New members who don't live in Perth will not require name badges, therefore membership cost will be at the renewal fee only

Monthly Home Visit

On the weekend following the fourth Thursday of each month (generally on the Sunday morning), a home visit is held at a member's home. This gives members an opportunity to enjoy the fellowship that our mutual interest provides, and to see how others go about growing their orchids.

Monthly Plant Display

Given that the prime objective of the Society is to promote the cultivation of species orchids, only species or natural hybrids are acceptable for display. Since we all may be uncertain about the identification of a plant from time to time, we encourage

members to bring plants along about which they are unsure since someone may be able to identify them. There is no competition nor restriction on flower count, quality or length of ownership. We want members to be able to see species plants in flower. So even if your flowers are a bit past their best, bring them in as others may not have seen that species in flower.

Plant Sales

The Society provides an opportunity table for members to sell surplus plants and equipment, and for the Society to sell product from time to time.

Plant Purchases

The Society endeavours to obtain a different species seedling for sale at each meeting, usually costing between \$6.00 and \$15.00. The Society makes a small profit on these sales which is invested in benefits to members. As it is always difficult to get new or different species, should members have 20 or more plants of one species which they feel might be suitable as a monthly plant, please contact a Committee member.

Raffle

The Society conducts a raffle each meeting and at home visits as a means of generating funds. If you have spare species orchids that you wish to sell to the Society for raffles, please advise a committee member.

Management

In accordance with the Rules, the Annual General meeting is held in May each year at which time the office-bearers and committee are elected. The majority of Committee members serve two year terms.

If unclaimed, return to
The Editor
210 Hermitage Drive, The Vines WA 6069

Next meeting Tuesday 8 November