

# **SHEFFIELD & DISTRICT ORCHID SOCIETY**

## **NEWSLETTER**

**NOVEMBER 2011**



**WOC 20 GRAND CHAMPION  
PLANT - CYCNODES TAIWAN  
GOLD 'ORCHIS'**

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## EDITORIAL

Perhaps an unusual editorial this month following a smaller than usual meeting and a long trip for several of the members to Singapore. The WOC itself will be covered in the January meeting, and I have taken an awful lot of pictures to try and cut down to a smaller number to fit the limited time that will be available. However, it was an excellent show, and a credit to both the organisers and Singapore for having the infrastructure to host such an event. I have put a taste of what was on display on the cover – front and back - to whet your appetite for a New Year extravaganza (even if I say so myself).

## BUSINESS

With the November meeting not having followed a committee meeting there is little in the way of official business to report on.

The AGM is to be held on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December at the usual time of 10am. An agenda is attached to the newsletter with full details. This will be followed by a buffet. Food contributions are welcome of course, but please contact Julie Binks prior to the event so that the correct quantities can be achieved – we don't want 1000 puddings and no main courses!

Will all members holding cups and trophies please bring them to the meeting so that they can be presented as appropriate. A full list of class winners will be included in the December newsletter.

One roll of the AGM is of course to approve the accounts, and these together with the agenda are attached to this newsletter. You will see that there is a vacancy for a Show

Secretary/co-ordinator. This has been a vacancy now for some time, and we would really like a volunteer to seriously think about giving just a little of their time to take this task on board.

This month's meeting was definitely different, various members having deserted us in favour of Singapore. Those of us remaining in good old England participated in an auction which proved to be both enjoyable and profitable. We took so long we never got around to the intended forum.

Charles Ford was our genial auctioneer and an excellent job he did too. We had two tables filled with plants. There were twenty orchids, goodness knows how many other plants, some for the garden others for conservatories or glasshouses. There was also a variety of horticultural sundries.

Charles gave helpful information and growing tips, cajoling and wheedling his way through no less than 46 lots. Everything was very light hearted and at times extremely amusing. Steve Mills did us proud with his contributions. There were four red banana plants each a metre or more high. Might they be helpful at Chatsworth next year? A Jasmine of similar height, but considerably more girth, some very attractive but vicious Agaves to name but a few.

A varied selection of orchids included Cattleyas, Coelogynes, Phrags, Dendrobium and two beautifully mounted Aeranthes. Somehow I was sold another Phrag. Sedenii (I thought the name sounded familiar) I should have paid more attention, however no doubt two are better than one.

The table show was very sparse and Charles gave the commentary for this.

We owe Charles many thanks for making it a very pleasurable, good humoured and amusing meeting. In total the auction made £83:50 **Carolyn McQueen**

## **NIGHT FLOWERING ORCHID.**

The BBC website has recently featured a newly described *Bulbophyllum* – which is quite unusual for them as new species are always being discovered, most of which are only noteworthy to the botanists and collectors. This new species – *Bulb. nocturnum* only flowers at night, and for 1 night only, and is believed to be the only orchid that does this. As with many *Bulbophyllums*, it has an unusual flower shape that is hard to describe, but a picture is in their report which can be found at

[www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-15818662](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-15818662)

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...**

### **MONTHLY MEETINGS AT RANMOOR – 10AM**

**Dec 11<sup>th</sup>**                      AGM and buffet, please attend.

**Jan 8<sup>th</sup> 2012**                John Garner – the recent WOC in Singapore

Society website - [www.sheffieldorchids.org](http://www.sheffieldorchids.org)



Above: - Paphiopedilum Du Motier 'Victoria Village' – Reserve GC plant WOC 20  
Below: - The Orchid bird takes flight from the PNG display at WOC 20

