

**Sheffield & District  
Orchid Society  
Newsletter  
December 2013**



**December Plant of the Month  
Calanthe Vestita 'Tokyo'**

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## Editorial

Happy new year, and I hope it is a good one for you all. I hope that the weather doesn't continue as it finished 2013 with high wind and heavy rain. It will be a busy start for Denise and I as we hopefully leave Huddersfield for a quieter pace of life up towards the dales. We haven't yet bought anywhere, so will be around Easter I guess. I need a bigger garden so that I can build a new greenhouse twice the size that I have now, and then create different temperature zones to grow some plants that aren't comfortable in the current intermediate one.

# Business

The major business of the day is of course the AGM - which is documented below.

Reduced price tickets for the 2014 Malvern International orchid Show will be available this year. These are priced at £6 per day, and if you wish to obtain them, then please contact Carolyn who is co-ordinating the exercise. This year's show was excellent, and 2014 promises to be even better!

## The Table Show

John Garner volunteered for this month's table show, and started on the left with a huge specimen of *Pleurothallis phalangifera* (see back cover) with more flowers and spikes than you can count. Not all of the starry pale yellow flowers were fully open, but it created quite a show just on its own. Cattlianthe Chocolate Drop 'Kodama' was a very pretty colour being a deep reddish brown with a contrasting lip of reddish yellow. It had 2 spikes of 6 starry flowers. The clone 'Kodoma' is highly awarded across the world, having won an AM/AOS in 1981 - Ed. Vanda 'Ikea' made its final appearance of 2013 with its 4th flowering. This time it had fewer blue flowers, and is probably due for a winter's rest.

A good number of slippers filled the centre section of the table. Two plants of Paph. Clair de Lune 'EVB' were fine upstanding green and white flowers of the 'Maudiae' type. Altostratus is a decent white with a few fine spots and Freckles 'Mont Millais' was a noted clone from the EYOF. It was early in its flowering and would fade to a clear white background. Lemon Hart x (Betty Bracey x Jolly Green Gem) was a pleasant first flowering speckled amber and could be better next time around. St. Ouen's Bay 'Cerritos' was almost round, white in colour with a few spots on the dorsal. It was said to be the owners best (and most valuable) plant. Swallow x Douce was more

modest with a curved flower of white, green and amber with spots. Hung Sheng Venus (*charlesworthii* x *venustum*) was a smallish plant that had an interesting flower mid way between the 2 parents. Phrag. *besseae* was a smallish plant with a strong flower of an orange colour (see back cover). Phrag. Silver Rose x *schlimii* had a small pink flower typical of the *schlimii* parent.

Phal. *pulcherrima* is a nice small flowered species, and Phal Tomboy was a good white with a pink lip. Onc. Dancing Ladies is a yellow/brown Oncidium with lots of smallish flowers that dance in a breeze. Coel. *fuscescens* was interesting as it had orange flowers rather than the white ones that we see more commonly. Calanthe *vestita* 'Tokyo' was a large plant - unusually covered in silver foil to disguise the naked bulbs. It had several tall spikes of pink & white flowers of good quality. This was adjudged to be the plant of the month (see front cover) - as it was 12 months ago (see Dec 2012 newsletter for details). The final plant was Dendrobium *rennellii* with mainly white flowers with purple veining inside. It is a plant that you need to look more closely at to appreciate fully. **Thank you John.**

## The AGM

1. **Apologies for Absence.** These were received from Peter Battle, Derek Jackson, Bev Evans and Anne Ellis.
2. **Minutes of the AGM held on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> 2012.** It was agreed these were a true record.
3. **Matters arising.** There were none.
4. **Chairman's Report.** This has been an interesting year with a wide and varied programme covering many areas of the globe. Members have been involved in many activities including judging and seedling growing with a photographic competition planned for next year. An interesting and varied programme is planned for next year and all Ted's efforts procuring speakers is much appreciated. It is not an easy task. We had a good Show at Chatsworth this year and it is hoped that everyone will help to promote next year's Show. The

Chairman is grateful for the willingness of individuals to carry out tasks asked of them. Janet Kirk, who is retiring as librarian was especially thanked for all her work over many years. The Chairman concluded by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and New Year and expressed his hope that the society will continue to prosper.

5. The President thanked the Chairman for all the experience and expertise that he had brought to the Society.
6. There are two spaces available for trainee judges.
7. **Treasurer's Report.** Some results are better whilst others are not. We have lost £3,000 over the last three years. We need to devise new strategies to try and increase our membership and are open to suggestions. Bev and Anne were thanked for carrying out the monthly raffle, this made a considerable addition to our funds. The people who have generously donated raffle prizes were also thanked.
8. **Auditor's Report.** Ted Greaves had signed the accounts as a true record and was willing to stand again as auditor. The members voted to accept the accounts.
9. **Election of Trustees and Management Committee.** As there was only one nomination for each position the nominees were voted in en bloc.
10. **Election of Auditors.** Both Ted Greaves and Derek Havenhand were nominated and a vote to elect them was carried.
11. **Any Other Business.** Although some members aren't attending because they have trouble hearing the speakers, the sound system has been improved and is now working well. It is hoped this will encourage those members to return.
12. **Presentation of Trophies.** Following the presentation of the trophies the proceedings were brought to a close.

# 2012-2013 Prize winners

Cattleya & allied Species	Ian Wilson	Miss Turner's tankard
Cattleya & allied Hybrids	Val Minogue	Edna Williams Trophy
Cymbidium Species & Hybrids	Ted Croot	Bill Holmes Cup
Dendrobinae Species	Ted Croot	Bill Wordsworth Vase
Dendrobinae Hybrids	Val Minogue	Bill Wordsworth Plaque
Terrestrials	Derek Jackson	Disa painting
Masdevallias	Ted Croot	Theo Dengel Plaque
Novices	n/a	Ken Gill Trophy
Oncidinae Species	Ted Croot	Davidson Rosebowl
Oncidinae Hybrids	Peter Battle	Maunder Painting
Paphiopedilum Species	Derek Jackson	David Danks Trophy
Paphiopedilum Hybrids	John Garner	AT Moss Trophy
Phragmipedium Species	Ted Croot	Denis Taylor Trophy
Phragmipedium Hybrids	Val Minogue	Mrs Gregson's Cup
Phalaeonopsis Species & Hybrids	Val Minogue	Ann Shelley Lloyd Painting
Pleurothallidinae	n/a	BOC Jubilee Cup
Vandaceous exc. Phalaenopsis	Derek Jackson	RA Barker Trophy
Any other Species	Ted Croot	President's Cup
Any other Hybrid	Val Minogue	Basil Nicholson Trophy
Best Individual Plant	Peter Battle	Nunwick Rosebowl

# Dates for your diary...

## Monthly meetings at Ranmoor – 10am

- Jan 12th 2014**      **Charles Ford** - Those confusing Australian Dendrobies. Baffled as to the true identity of *Den kingianum* or allied species? - then Charles will try and sort the species from the hybrids.
- Feb 9th**              **Mel Stephen** - Dendrobiums and allied. a good look at the whole genus.
- March 9th**            David Menzies - Orchids of and in New Zealand.

## shows/exhibits/conferences etc

- Feb 23rd**              Harrogate OS annual Show, Britannia Hotel, Bramhope. \*\* SDOS exhibiting\*\*
- April 6th**              NEEOS Annual Show, Bowburn. \*\* SDOS exhibiting\*\*
- April 11-12th**        RHS London Orchid Show
- May 11th**              SDOS Annual show at Chatsworth
- Sept 6-10th**         World Orchid Conference - Johannesburg.



Above:- *Pleurothallis phalangifera*

Below: - *Phrag. besseae*

