

**Sheffield & District
Orchid Society
Newsletter
May 2015**



**Cyp. Hank Small - Best Amateur
Plant, Chatsworth 2015**

Editorial

Our monthly meetings are usually arranged on the 2nd Sunday of the month. This normally gives me 4 weeks between newsletters, with the bonus of a 5 week gap every 3 months. This issue has that rarest of events with a 6 week gap, however, the next one will only be 3 weeks! The trouble though is that there isn't a rush at first, so it goes on the back burner, and then suddenly it becomes desperate as it has to be out prior to the original date to ensure that you all know about the revised date (see below) and don't turn up early as it were.

All my plants are now safely moved into the new conservatory where they are enjoying some better weather with natural sunlight, better temperatures and humidity. Many plants are now sprouting new roots, especially the warmer growing ones. I don't think that I saw more than a handful of roots last year, so they all have a year's growth to catch up on. Several of my Paphs haven't made it with regular deaths, but hopefully the end of the losses is now in sight and I can look forward to a colourful winter.

Business

With no committee meeting or general meeting there is little to pass on to members this month. The main thing to note is the date of the next meeting, which will be the 21st June. This is a week later than usual, and is caused by a clash with the Malvern Show which several members will be attending as well as our speaker! Please don't arrive on the normal date as advertised in the last newsletter or you may find yourself locked outside in the rain (can we have some warm sunshine please...).

SDOS Annual Show, held at Edensor, Chatsworth May 10th 2015

The annual show was held on a fairly drab May Sunday - it was dull, but thankfully rain free. The chilly foyer probably suited Dave Parkinson's terrestrials there, and he had a good selection of his hardy plants with Bletillas, Disas, Pleiones, Epipactis, Spiranthes and Gymnadenia.

Burnham Nurseries had a large display packed with colour and flamboyance. A good range of bright Vandas draped the back with a wide range of Phals and *nobile* type Dendrobium hybrids. Coelogynes are a key plant for their displays at this time of the year and the scented *ochracea* did its job well. Coel. *tomentosa* (form. *massangeana*) had several lengthy droopy flower spikes full of pale brown flowers. The Phals have now moved on from the standard white and pink clones, and they now had interesting shades of orange and spots as well as with coloured fringes. The terrestrial Dienias are now more widely available. It isn't all plants in flower, and a few oddments could be found with a bit of time - such as Bulb. *robustum* and Milt *spectabilis*.

Phoenix completed the trade with a wide range of the unusual and oddments, mainly out of flower. They had a good display which for me was slightly over packed and would have looked better with a bit more space.

The floor plan was altered this year with Sheffield's display just inside the hall rather than EMOS. This year we had a tiered table top display that ultimately had some height to it. 1 or 2 more plants would have made it a very good display, but there was no issues having to search for them. The only first place went to Jimmy Grieves with Paph. Julius, a tall and elegant multifloral hybrid. Several other plants won highly commended cards, and these are all detailed in the results below. Julius was surrounded by several complex Paphs at one end of the table. Several Phals and Cattleyas were present as well as the smaller Masdevallias. *Sobralia macrantha* was a tall plant that deserved an HC just for being transported to the show. Prior to a slight trim it had been 8' tall! It had a single pink flower that only lasts for a few days (see back cover).

The North East of England OS had a very good large display and ended up with the Best Amateur Plant with Cyp. Hank Small (*parviflorum x henryi*). This is a multigrowth plant with several blooms per growth. The flowers are relatively small, but all in good condition (part of the plant is on this month's front cover). A variegated form of *Vanda falcata* was very interesting. Cym. Sweet Devon and Epc. Brown Bird were also very good, however for me most eye-catching was the very deep maroon coloured Phal. Champion Black Pixie with lots of smallish flowers.

Harrogate OS displayed many specimens on their strong exhibit (as usual). *Eulophia euglossa x guineensis* was notable. *guineensis* is a plant that we see around a bit with tall flower spikes. Crossed with *euglossa* it produced shorter branched spikes with a good colour mix of brown/green petals with

a rippled pink lip. Bulb. Lewis was quite impressive as was Bulb. Carsul. Paphs. *tonsum* var *cupreum* and *micranthum* 'Purbeck' were very good.

The Lincoln Orchid Group had a nice display where all plants could easily be seen. Several trays of Pleiones caught the eye, as did a good selection of Sarcophilus species and hybrids. A magnificent tall *Cyrtorchilum minax* topped out the display.

EMOS completed the list of Societies with another excellent display of specimen plants around a rustic frame on a round base. It contained several notable Dendrobiums from the large *thrysiflorum*s to the fine *transperans* and *signatum*. Sumptuous large Cattleyas abounded as did a good mixture of Masdevallia species and hybrids. Large pots of Cyp filled in at floor level together with many pots of Lycastes and Anguloas. On the frame there was a range of the quirky and unusual Stanhopeas.

Overall it was a good show. It was formally opened by his grace the Duke who spoke freely about the need to support the Society to ensure future shows at Chatsworth. He presented the millennium plate to Jean Barker for winning the best in show with Cyp. Hank Small.

The parking facilities have been revised since last year and there are now more spaces available, so we had no problems in that area. Sadly we didn't have as many visitors as in previous years, so our team on the door had a bit more spare time.

The catering team did a wonderful job as usual, always with a smile on their faces, and great thanks are due to Christine and her team, and to those who supplied cakes and other goodies. Enormous thanks are due to Jim Charlesworth who arranged the event, and we hope he has slept better since then. Thanks also to all who supplied plants for the display, helped with setting up beforehand and tidying up afterwards.

SDOS 2015 Annual Show Results

Phalaenopsis species:	<i>Phal. lueddemanniana</i>	A Deakin	EMOS
	<i>Phal. mannii</i>	B Redman	LOG

Phalaenopsis hybrids:	Phal. Champion Black Pixie	B Coulson	NEEOS
	Phal. Zuma Aussie Delight	T Croot	SDOS
	Phal. Luddeviolacea	T Croot	SDOS

Cymbidium:	Cym. Sweet Devon	J Barker	NEEOS
HC	<i>Cym. insigne</i> 'Spring Rock'	S Pask	EMOS
HC	<i>Cym. devonianum</i>	I Higson	EMOS
HC	Cym. Dorothy Stockstill	S Pask	EMOS
Any Other species:	<i>Coel. ochracea</i>	H Hobbs	Harr.OS
HC	<i>Brazilorchis schunkeana</i>	E Eyre	EMOS
HC	<i>Coelogyne mooreana</i> 'Brockhurst.	H Hobbs	Harr.OS
HC	<i>Sobralia macrantha</i>	C Ford	SDOS
Any Other hybrid:	Bulb. Lewis	P White	Harr. OS
HC	<i>Eulophia euglossa x guineense</i>	B Marsh	Harr. OS
HC	Bulb. Carsul	P White	Harr.OS
HC	<i>Thunia Gattonensis</i>	M White	Harr. OS
Lycaste and Allied:	<i>Anguloa cliftonii</i>	R Hartley	EMOS
HC	Lycaste. David	R Hartley	EMOS
Oncidiinae species:	<i>Cochlioda noezliana</i>	R Evenden	EMOS
HC	<i>Cytrochilum minax</i>	R Baxter	LOG
HC	<i>Onc. lindleyanum</i>	H Hobbs	Harr. OS
Oncidiinae hybrids:	Brassia Mystic Maze	R Baxter	LOG
HC	Onc. Tiger Brew	R Marsh	Harr. OS
Vandaceous species:	<i>V. falcata</i>	J Barker	NEEOS
HC	<i>Sarc. hartmanii</i>	R Baxter	LOG
HC	<i>Schoenorchis gemmata</i>	J Barker	NEEOS
Vandaceous hybrids:	V. Khaoyai Fantasy	J Robson	NEEOS
HC	Sarc. Heidi	R Baxter	LOG
Laeliinae species:	<i>C. purpurata</i>	A Deakin	EMOS
HC	<i>C. Skinnerii</i> 'Casa Luna'	M Armstrong	EMOS
HC	<i>Polystachya bella</i>	M Smith	EMOS
Laeliinae hybrids:	Epc. Brown Bird 'Chingling'	J Robson	NEEOS
HC	C. Love Knot 'Blue Star'	J Robson	NEEOS

Masdevallia species:	<i>Masd. caesia</i> ‘Eva May’	E Eyre	EMOS
HC	<i>Masd. coccinea</i> f. <i>xanthina</i>	B Woodward	SDOS
Masdevallia Hybrids	Masd. Brian Charles	E Eyre	EMOS
HC	Masd. Fraseri ‘Seattle Dream’	E Eyre	EMOS
HC	Masd. Cassiope	L Gray	EMOS
HC	Masd. Hawaiian Sunset	H Hobbs	Harr. OS
Pleurothallidinae:	<i>Anathallis regalis</i> ‘Staveley’	E Eyre	EMOS
Terrestrials:	Cyp. Hank Small	J Barker	NEEOS
HC	<i>Pleione formosana</i>	S Clements	EMOS
HC	<i>Calanthe hugen</i>	S Clements	EMOS
HC	Cyp. Sunny	S Clements	EMOS
HC	Cyp. Michael	S Clements	EMOS
HC	Peione. Tongariro	S Clements	EMOS
Miniatures:	Pths. Grobyi ‘Yellow Sweetheart’	J Barker	NEEOS
HC	<i>Pths. mathildae</i>	J Barker	NEEOS
Paphiopedilum species:	Paph. <i>tonsum</i> var. <i>cupreum</i>	I Dorman	Harr.OS
HC	Paph. <i>micranthum</i>	I Dorman	Harr.OS
HC	Paph. <i>bellatulum</i>	I Dorman	Harr.OS
HC	Paph. <i>haynaldianum</i>	G Dobbs	EMOS
Paphiopedilum hybrids:	Paph. Julius	J Grieves	SDOS
HC	Paph. China Moon	I Dorman	Harr.OS
Phragmipedium species:	<i>Phrag. longifolium</i>	G Dobbs	EMOS
HC	<i>Phrag. warszewiczianum</i>	A Deakin	EMOS
HC	<i>Phrag. caudatum</i>	H Hobbs	Harr. OS
Phragmipedium hybrids:	Phrag. Cape Gold Nugget	M White	Harr.OS
Dendrobiinae species:	<i>Den. thyrsoiflorum</i>	M Armstrong	EMOS
HC	<i>Den. thyrsoiflorum</i>	S Pask	EMOS
HC	<i>Den. transperens</i>	M Stephen	EMOS
HC	<i>Den. signatum</i>	M Stephen	EMOS

HC	<i>Den. jenkinsii</i>	I Dorman	Harr. OS
Dendrobiinae hybrids:	Den. Pam Tajima	H Hobbs	Harr.OS
HC	Den. New Star	C Ford	SDOS

Best Amateur Plant - Cyp. Hank Small J Barker NEEOS

Dates for your diary...

Monthly meetings at Ranmoor – 10am

- June 21st** **Steve Manning: Unpredictable Pleurothallids.** Steve has spoken to us many times, and specialises in these cool growing miniature beauties (in the eye of the beholder of course) from South America.
- July 12th** **Francis Quesada-Pallares: Phalaenopsis.** Francis (or FQP) spoke last year, which turned out to be a change to the advertised programme. He had planned to tell us of the delights of the Phals, but had the wrong memory stick for his computer. He can't possibly do the same again this year...

shows/exhibits/conferences etc

June 12-14th Malvern International Orchid Show

Society website - www.sheffieldorchids.org



Above - *Sobralia macrantha*, by far the tallest plant in show

Below - *Masdevallia coccinea* f. *xanthina*

