

SHEFFIELD & DISTRICT ORCHID SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2011



**BEST AMATEUR PLANT AT CHATSWORTH
BRASSADA MEMORIA BERT FIELD**

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BUSINESS

There being no meeting neither this month, nor a committee gathering there is little to address. The main business was of course our Annual Show, which it must be said went very well. After a year away from Chatsworth, and a change in format to a single day – and earlier from the usual Bank Holiday, we were unsure just what would transpire. Thankfully after the loss at Bakewell we were able to return to profit through door entries alone with catering adding the icing on the top. Tremendous thanks are due to all members who provided plants and/or helped out on the day, all of which contributed to our success.

ANNUAL SHOW AT CHATSWORTH 2011

After a year away at Bakewell it seemed like going home to return to the familiar surrounds of the Edensor Institute at Chatsworth, and its own peculiar set of circumstances – the golfers and bowlers making parking a bit of a challenge etc., but at least no one got a parking ticket this year. The venue at Chatsworth is a little more cramped, but creates a more vibrant atmosphere than the vast foyer of last year.

Setting up began on Saturday afternoon with several Societies making a start, as well as Chantelle Orchids who were going to a lot of trouble to stage some fine plants. Akerne arrived later in the evening, and the remaining Societies and trade were up with the larks on Sunday, and all was staged well before the judging deadline.

Some minor changes were made to the judging format for this year. Previously First and Second were awarded red or blue rosettes respectively. This year it was decided as a cost saving measure to replace the Second rosette with a Highly Commended card of which 2 could be awarded per class if required (or more if deemed appropriate). Unfortunately a week before the show it transpired that the company making the rosettes weren't able to manufacture and ship them in time (there's been a lot of holidays as well as Easter), so some additional cards were printed for First prize as well as for the best Amateur Plant. Whilst we **are** sorry that things didn't quite go according to plan, we actually saved more money as each card is a few pence rather than a few pounds.

The judging had just about finished when the doors were opened early due to queues outside, and the hall quickly filled with exited members of the public to a level not seen for many a year.

The recent difficult winter(s) led to some differences in plant availability. Often you would expect to see the hardy Dactylorhizas in flower around now, but it seems they are struggling this year. Cymbidiums which have usually finished by now are still in flower and so on...

A different strategy for the trade this year saw a shift away from the norm of 'Phalaenopsis retailers' more towards vendors for niche markets, with greater accent on hardies. Dave Parkinson (without Dactylorhizas) had less in colour than normal as it isn't quite the Disa season just yet. Alphabet Orchids came from Kent and have a mixture of some hardies and terrestrial plants requiring greenhouses. Most of these were on the small side allowing a lot of plants to fit in a small space in a car. None of their plants were in flower, but the unusual nature of what they had saw some decent sales. Orchid Alchemy was another new trader, again with several small plants at decent prices. They had a few hardies, but mainly cooler growing species. Chantelle Orchids were the final newcomer, and had an extremely colourful display with several specimen sized plants with a hefty price tag. The quality of the plants appeared to justify the cost, and quite a number slipped out through the door during the day. Their main range of plants was with the Cattleya family, and they had many unusual colour mixes as well as many that were quite straightforward. We were pleased to welcome Akerne Orchids back after a few years absence – after a long journey from Belgium via London. As always they had a range of unusual plants that you really need to delve into – from the miniature Bulbophyllums and Masdevallias to 7' tall *Sobralia macrantha* there was something for everyone.

In the amateur displays we (SDOS) had moved from a floor mounted display to a table top and members supplied us with a good number of plants to fill it perfectly. Despite this we didn't win as many awards as hoped – due to extraordinary quality elsewhere. We had a full range of colours, genera and temperatures so there wasn't a lot more that we could do. Our class winners were both in the slippers, with Derek Jackson in the Terrestrials with 2 flowers on each of 2 spikes of *Cyp. calceolus*, and John Garner with the 4 flower spikes of the speckled white Paph. Icy Icy Wind. HCs were awarded to plants from Ted Croot and Ian Dorman.

East Midlands OS had by far the biggest display, and their show team mounted their usual tree trunk based display. This is probably the only way that they can get their huge specimens arranged. Having said that, they also have several small plants and Ellis Eyre's *Anathallis* (*Pleurothallis*) *regalis* 'Eva May' with long sprays of fully open tiny yellow flowers was quite eye catching – as was Masd Tuakaii 'Goldstrike'. *Maxillaria juergensii* is a specimen miniature of tiny red flowers. In their huge plants, *Den. crhysotoxum* and *trhysiflorum(s)* were outstanding. *Phrag. caudatum* had 2 spikes each of 3 flowers with long tails, whilst *Den. Second Love* was a *nobile* type of strong substance and white flowers.

The North East of England OS had a wall backed display with plants carefully arranged on a slope. They had a good mix of genera with many smaller specimens, all of strong colour. These included *Phal. cornu-cervi* with at least 5 spikes of sequential yellow flowers, and the well grown cork mounted *Onc. eurycline* (*longipes*) with many spikes of small yellow and brown flowers.

Harrogate OS had several well grown large plants, with *Coel. Burfordiense* the largest by far with long drooping spikes of off white flowers that must be a nightmare to transport! *Paph. hangianum* had a huge yellow flower. *Cym. tigrinum* was a superb example of the species with delicate arching sprays of bronze based flowers.

Cheshire and North Wales OS had a more modest sized display, but some good plants. Nakamotoara Joyce Hands (*Neof. falcata* x *Asco. Blue Boy*) was quite eye catching with lilac flowers. *Brsa Memoria Bert Fields* was a specimen with around a dozen arched sprays of spiky orange flowers. This hybrid between *Ada aurantiaca* and *Brassia verrucosa* was eventually to be selected as the best amateur plant (see front cover).

All in all it was an excellent show with many quality plants, and a choice of something different to buy (there were no Phals available). Our greatest surprise was that his Grace the Duke called in unannounced (and paid). We had publicised our show on the Chatsworth events website this year, and this was probably the reason why, and he is keen to continue the family tradition of opening the show.

With next year's show being our 40th, we should be able to add some prestige to it.

2011 Annual Show Results –

Phalaenopsis species:	<i>Phal cornu-cervi</i>	Jean Barker	NEEOS
HC	<i>Phal sumatrana</i>	Hilary Hobbs	HOS
HC	<i>Phal minus</i>	Dave Burton	EMOS

Phalaenopsis hybrids:	Phal White Wedding	Wayne Haywood	EMOS
HC	Phal Mini-Mark	Brian Coulson	NEEOS

Cymbidium:	<i>Cym tigrinum</i>	Ian Dorman	HOS
HC	<i>Cym devonianum</i>	Ian Higson	EMOS
HC	Cym California Sun Acres	Keith Kent	EMOS

Terrestrials:	<i>Cypripedium calceolus</i>	Derek Jackson	SDOS
HC	Disa Derek Shaw 'Superb'	David Cobain	NEEOS
HC	Disa Inca Princess	Bob Marsh	HOS

Any Other species:	<i>Max juergensii</i>	Richard Evenden	EMOS
HC	<i>Bulb eberhardtii</i>	Mike Armstrong	EMOS
HC	<i>Max sandariana</i>	Bob Marsh	HOS

Any Other hybrid:	Coel Burfordiense	Hilary Hobbs	HOS
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Lycaste and Allied:	<i>Lyc candida</i> x <i>L deppei</i>	Dick Hartley	EMOS
HC	Lyc Auburn 'Coksbridge Red' x <i>Anguloa ruckeri</i>	Malcolm White	HOS

Oncidiinae species:	<i>Onc eurycline</i>	Bob Lowland	NEEOS
HC	<i>Onc phymatochilum</i>	Arthur Deakin	EMOS
HC	<i>Brs verrucosa</i> var. <i>brachiata</i>	Keith Kent	EMOS

Oncidiinae hybrids:	Brsa Memoria Bert Fields	Desmond Tanner	CANWOS
HC	Onc Splinter 'Norman'	Mike Armstrong	EMOS
HC	Oda Sanderae	Chris Tyrie	NEEOS

Vandaceous species:	<i>Angm didieri</i>	Jean and Henry Wood	CANWOS
HC	<i>Sed japonica</i>	Chris Tyrie	NEEOS
HC	<i>Ascdm ampullaceum</i>	Steve Pask	EMOS

Vandaceous hybrids:	Nak Joyce Hands	Jean and Henry Wood	CANWOS
HC	<i>Ren storei x V denisoniana</i>	Steve Pask	EMOS
HC	Vasco Tham Yuen Hae x Broga Blue Bell	Ted Croot	SDOS
Laeliinae species:	<i>L purpurata</i>	Arthur Deakin	EMOS
HC	<i>C intermedia</i>	Ian Wright	CANWOS
HC	<i>C walkeriana</i>	Jean Barker	NEEOS
Laeliinae hybrids:	Epc Lime Sherbet	Jean Barker	NEEOS
HC	Slc Jewel Box	Tom Houghton	NEEOS
HC	Slc Jewel Box	Bob Gowland	NEEOS
Masdevallia species:	<i>Masd coccinea</i>	Keith Kent	EMOS
HC	<i>Masd veitchiana</i>	Alex Scott	CANWOS
HC	<i>Masd notodibarica</i>	Ellis Eyre	EMOS
Masdevallia hybrids:	Masd Tuakaii ‘Goldstrike’	Arthur Deakin	EMOS
HC	Masd Pinwheel	Jean Barker	NEEOS
Pleurothallidinae:	<i>Pths regalis</i>	Ellis Eyre	EMOS
HC	<i>Zo argus</i>	Ellis Eyre	EMOS
HC	<i>Pths bifalcis</i>	Pat McLean	NEEOS
HC	<i>Pths sclerochilla</i>	?	EMOS
Miniatures:	<i>Max juergensii</i>	Richard Evenden	EMOS
HC	<i>Pths mathildae</i>	Jean Barker	NEEOS
HC	<i>Pths sclerochilla</i>	?	EMOS
Paphiopedilum species:	<i>Paph hangianum</i>	Ian Dorman	HOS
HC	<i>Paph micranthum f. album</i>	Ian Dorman	SDOS
Paphiopedilum hybrids:	Paph Icy Icy Wind	John Garner	SDOS
HC	Paph Lady Isabel	Hilary Hobbs	HOS
Phragmipedium species:	<i>Phrag caudatum</i>	G. Dobbs	EMOS
HC	<i>Phrag warscewiczianum</i>	Arthur Deakin	EMOS
Phragmipedium hybrids:	Phrag Longueville	Jean and Henry Wood	CANWOS
Dendrobiinae species:	Den chrysotoxum	Melvyn Steven	EMOS
HC	Den thrysiflorum	Keith Kent	EMOS

HC	Den fleckeri	Jean Barker	NEEOS
Dendrobiinae hybrids:	Den Second Love	Keith Kent	EMOS
HC	Den Ice on Fire	David Johnston	HOS

Best Amateur Plant - Brsa Mem. Bert Field Desmond Tanner CANWOS

TRIP TO THE NETHERLANDS

A trip to the Netherlands has been arranged by the Phalaenopsis Alliance, and several places are still available, so invites are extended to members of other Societies on a first come basis. It leaves the UK on Monday 4th July from Harwich at 9pm for an overnight sailing, returning to Harwich on Friday 8th at 7am. Whilst on the continent there will be trips to several huge nurseries normally out of bounds to visitors, culminating with a trip to the famous Aalsmeer flower market where plants are sold by the thousand (keep your hands in your pockets). Accommodation is in good quality 4 star hotel. The cost is very reasonable at £252 each per couple, and £296 for singles not sharing.

This promises to be an eye opening trip, with not much travelling time on the coach once there. The trip is just a few weeks away, so if you wish to go, please let Chris barker know ASAP. Full details are in the enclosed leaflet.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

MONTHLY MEETINGS AT RANMOOR – 10AM

June 12th Hilary Hobbs – Pests and diseases

July 10th Robin McDonald - Coelogynes

OTHER SHOWS

June 5th NEOS Annual Show, Tatton Park, Cheshire.
www.orchid.org.uk/tatton/index.htm

June 17 -19th Peterborough International Orchid Show
www.peterboroughinternationalorchidshow.org.uk

Aug 27 – 28th BOGA Summer Fayre, Dinton Pastures, www.boga.org.uk

Society website - www.sheffieldorchids.org



Above: - *Angraecum didieri*

Below: - just one corner of the SDOS display at Chatsworth

