

Orchid

Society of Great Britain

Journal



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The Orchid Society of Great Britain

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Editor's notes



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Photographics

It has been a wonderful year for hardy orchids and I hope members have been able to enjoy them around the country.

The Society has had a busy and successful show season,

winning a Gold medal at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show, and Silver-Gilt medals at the RHS London Orchid Show and Malvern International Orchid Show. Thank you to all the members who have been involved with these shows – lending plants, building displays and talking to visitors.

This issue includes reports on these shows and our Photographic and Art Competition. Henry Oakeley writes about Mike Penney's *Epidendrum parkinsonianum* and members Tony Britton, Stuart Meeson and Aud Gjerde write about their some of their plants. An update on next April's European Orchid Show and Conference offers details about events and booking.

The OSGB will be staging two more displays this year, at the Orchid Study Group's 7th Orchid Festival in Wales on 6 and 7 September and at the Devon Orchid Society weekend in Dawlish Warren from 17 to 19 October. A coach from central London will be available to take members to the Autumn Show at Wraybury on 1 November (please book places in advance).

The November issue may arrive a little later than usual because I shall be away for six weeks this autumn. **Consequently the copy deadline for the next issue is 1 September 2014.**

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Photos by Henry Oakeley unless otherwise stated

Front cover: Stuart Meeson's *Pleione Tongariro* shown at Napier Hall in April (photo by Robert Simmons)

Back cover: *Lepanthes telipogoniflora* shown by KJ Orchids of Denmark at the RHS London Orchid Show in April

News

Sam Hurley



OSGB Vice President Jo Kelleher (right) and cake creator Francesca Pitcher at Oak Furniture Land's new Orpington store (photo by Keith Larby)



This astonishingly realistic cake depicts *Eulophia guineensis* in a porcelain jardinière and pays tribute to our Gold medal success at Chelsea (photo by Keith Larby)

Cake presented to OSGB

OSGB Vice President Jo Kelleher received a beautiful cake on behalf of the Society. It was presented by Oak Furniture Land in June at the opening of their new store in Orpington, Kent, where both Jo and OSGB Display Manager Jeanette Beany live. The cake will take centre stage at the welcome lunch for our new members in August.

Oak Furniture Land paid tribute to the OSGB's success at Chelsea by asking Kent-based cake artist Francesca Pitcher of North Star Cakes to design a cake in the shape of a jardinière of *Eulophia guineensis*. This species appeared on our Chelsea display as it is native to the

Sultanate of Oman, whose Ministry of Tourism sponsored us again this year.

The cake is based on the stylised aesthetic movement in art, specifically British porcelain of the period. The jardinière is decorated with one of the species from this year's Gold medal-winning display, *Cattleya purpurata*, while other sections are based on enamelled jewellery depicting a generic *Cattleya* design. The astonishingly realistic *Eulophia guineensis* spikes were made from sugar and floristry wire, then hand painted in edible dusts. As no cutters exist for this flower the artist spent a day working on three prototypes before work could begin on the three spikes which took a further two and a half days to produce.



Phalaenopsis Cobalt Celebration (registration pending) will help raise funds for Cobalt, a charity providing diagnostic imaging (photo courtesy of Cobalt)

Orchid named for charity

OSGB President Peter White has donated the naming rights of a new *Phalaenopsis* hybrid to charity. They were bought at the RHS Malvern Spring Festival charity auction and donated by the buyer to Cobalt, a healthcare charity which provides advanced diagnostic imaging.

Cobalt celebrates its half century this year and sales of the soon-to-be-registered *Phalaenopsis* Cobalt Celebration will help to boost its 50th Anniversary Appeal in support of imaging facilities which aid the diagnosis of cancer and dementia.

Phalaenopsis Cobalt Celebration will be available from the autumn but can be

reserved in advance. To reserve plants please send a cheque for £15.00 payable to Cobalt at Cobalt, Linton House, Thirlestaine Road, Cheltenham GL53 7AS.

Coach to Autumn Show at Wraysbury

Our Autumn Show will take place on Saturday 1 November at Wraysbury Village Hall (see page 22 of the Annual Supplement for full details). Please note there is no meeting at Napier Hall in November. Following the success of the coach to our Spring Show, the Society is organising a coach to take members to our Autumn Show at Wraysbury.

There is plenty of capacity (up to 53 seats) for members, and any non-member friends, but **places must be booked in advance by 13 October**, cost £5.00 per person. Members attending Napier Hall meetings can pay in advance, otherwise on the day.

The coach will depart from the RHS Lawrence Hall on Greycoat Street, London SW1P 2QD at 10:00, and also pick up at Raynes Park overground station at around 10:40 (depending on traffic, meet by the bus stop in front of Starbucks). It will depart from Wraysbury at 16:00, returning to Greycoat Street via Raynes Park.

To book please contact Jeanette Beaney, giving her your name, contact details, and stating which pick-up point you require; tel: 07517 006387, e-mail: jeanette.beaney@btinternet.com

Trophies awarded at the AGM

The Brunning Cup

Francis Quesada-Pallarés

The Ray Oddy Cup

David Trendell for *Paphiopedilum* Liberty Taiwan

The Eric Young Trophy

Luis Sousa for *Paphiopedilum* Taiwan

The Ernie Self Memorial Trophy

Sally Mill for most marks at Table Shows

The Librarian's Cup

Henry Oakeley for *Anguloa brevilabris*

Christmas lunch

This year's Christmas lunch will take place at Napier Hall on Saturday 6 December, doors open at 12:30. All members are welcome to attend although places must be booked in advance. The Committee will provide a light buffet lunch which will cost £2.50 per person (£5.00 for non-members) and include a glass of wine. To book please contact Francis Quesada-Pallarés, tel: 07951 070637, e-mail: ols_francisjquesadapallares@hotmail.com

Changes to the Committee

There have been several changes to the Committee since the last issue.

Peter Johnson was elected as a Committee member at the AGM in June and we are pleased to welcome him back in his own right, although his support for the Society is ongoing as he assists his wife, Sue, in her work as our Membership Secretary.

Mary-Jane Hawkins has stood down as a Committee member and Sponsorship Secretary since the AGM. We are grateful for her work for the Society since joining the Committee in 2010 and the contribution she has made by writing lecture reports for the *Journal* over the past three years.

Borneo orchid trip 2015

There are still some places left for the trip to Borneo in 2015. Please see OSGBJ (2014) 63(2): 129 or the OSGB website's travel page for full details. If you are interested, please contact Francis Quesada-Pallarés, tel: 07951 070637, e-mail:

ols_francisjquesadapallares@hotmail.com



Henry Oakeley's *Anguloa brevilabris* was voted the most popular member's plant on the OSGB display at the 2014 RHS Chelsea Flower Show and won the Librarian's Cup (photo by Sam Hurley)

European Orchid Show & Conference 2015 update



Full details for the forthcoming 17th European Orchid Show & Conference are now available through the dedicated area of the RHS website: www.rhs.org.uk/shows-events/rhs-london-shows/european-orchid-show-and-conference-2015

The event will run from 8 to 12 April 2015. It includes an orchid show at the RHS Halls (9 to 12 April); scientific lectures at RBG Kew (8 and 9 April); horticultural lectures at the RHS Halls (10 and 11 April); and a preview evening on 8 April.

Lists of speakers can be viewed on the website. Online registration is now open and early-bird rates apply until 30 November 2014 (after which they will increase substantially).

Social events during the show include a Gala Dinner on Saturday 11 April, organised by the OSGB and held at the Royal College of Physicians. The College was originally founded in 1518 and is now housed in a modern Grade 1 listed building by Regent's Park. It regularly wins awards as one of London's leading small-event venues. Tours of the College's Medicinal Garden by Henry Oakeley will be available during the afternoon.

Dinner tickets are limited so please book early through the website; cost £70.00 per person, which includes a drinks reception, four course dinner and wine.

There are several registration packages to choose from: Full Package £130.00; Horticultural Package £70.00; Science Package £70.00; Show Package £50.00; and Partner Registration £35.00. Day tickets to

the show are also available. Registrants will receive a welcome pack, invitation to the preview, and early entry to the show.

Judging will take place on 8 April. Applications to assist with judging must be submitted by 1 March 2015 (judges must be registrants of the conference); an application form is available through the website.



Tours of the College's Medicinal Garden will be given by Henry Oakeley



The Gala Dinner reception will be held in the College's Dorchester Library, home to its collection of antique books (photo courtesy of the Royal College of Physicians)

Members' plants



Tony Britton's *Bulbophyllum wendlandianum* (seen here from above) flowers on unformed new growth in the spring



Bulbophyllum wendlandianum has 'tufts' on its dorsal sepal and petals

Bulbophyllum wendlandianum

Tony Britton (photos by Tony Britton)

At the 2012 Durham show I was looking amongst the orchids on John Keeling's stand and saw the name *Cirrhopetalum colletii* on a label. It was the only one he had and it looked healthy if fairly small. John told me it was from the collection of Major Berry who had been President of the Manchester Orchid Society (now the North of England Orchid Society) for some years. It had been in the Keeling collection for about 50 years, so I was pleased to be able to get a piece of it. I placed it with my intermediate plants.

I usually look up new additions on the internet to search for useful further information on habitat, feeding, water type, etc. Sure enough, there it was but with a different name – *Bulbophyllum wendlandianum* (*Ed*: This species was first described as *Cirrhopetalum collettianum* in 1890 but reclassified as *Bulbophyllum wendlandianum* in 1907).

After a month or two of acclimatising it to our orchid growing house, I repotted it up to a 10cm square pot using medium-sized bark. It now gets watered almost weekly as indicated by checking the weight of the pot, when it gets a good drink of tap water at pH 6.5 with feed to circa 350/400ppm (various brands). (*Ed*: this is soft mains water, rainwater is usually recommended for orchids). The plant has grown well in the conditions I have used and I was pleased to notice in early May that it was showing two inflorescences. My temperature range of

15–25°C, with summer shading on the warmer days, seems to have been to its liking.

Ed: Tony Britton is Chairman of the Cumbria Orchid Society and has been growing orchids for many years. For more about the genus *Bulbophyllum* read the account in this issue of Bill Thoms's talk to the Society (Napier Hall lecture report).

Epipactis gigantea

Stuart Meeson (photos by Stuart Meeson)

It was suggested to me that growing terrestrial orchids in a hanging basket was rather unconventional, but I am pleased with this year's display of *Epipactis gigantea*.

As a result of basket culture the flowers are visible at eye level rather than the viewer having to kneel down to admire their beauty, and they remain easily portable. The basket is now overflowing, with shoots growing through the woven willow itself.

Several years ago, I planted four budded rhizomes in a mixture of general purpose compost with added John Innes compost and orchid bark chips. These orchids, natives of North America, are grown in an easterly aspect to avoid the strongest summer sunlight. They are kept uniformly moist and fed with tomato food fortnightly. (*Ed:* *Epipactis* like to be damp so be vigilant about watering when growing them this way.)

Whilst they are hardy plants, the basket is covered with a protective fleece bag during the winter to reduce the risks of severe cold penetrating from the sides since the plants are not in the ground.



Stuart Meeson's *Epipactis gigantea* is thriving in its hanging basket



Epipactis gigantea is native to North America

Ed: Stuart Meeson is a physicist with a keen interest in horticulture. He is a regular exhibitor at OSGB meetings and shows and won the RHS Banksian Medal at this year's Spring Show for the greatest number of first, second and third places.



Aud Gjerde's *Phragmipedium* Paul Eugene Conroy was shy to flower but worth the wait

Phragmipedium Paul Eugene Conroy

Aud Gjerde (photo by Jan Gjerde)

More than any other orchid, *Phragmipedium* Paul Eugene Conroy (*warszewiczianum* x *longifolium*) has taught me the importance of patience and optimism when it comes to nurturing and growing orchids. I met my first *Phragmipedium* ten years ago and was thrilled by the long petals and the richly-formed, fascinating flowers. They reminded me of trolls.

Phragmipedium longifolium was first described as *Cypripedium longifolium* by Josef von Warszewicz and H G Reichenbach in 1852.

Phragmipedium warszewiczianum has also changed genera several times since first being described as *Selenipedium wallisii* by H G Reichenbach in 1873. There are only about 30 *Phragmipedium* species although growers can choose from a large number of hybrids these days. But that does not mean all of them are easy to grow.

I decided that I should have a *Phragmipedium* for my collection. I knew they had a tropical origin and they required the correct light, temperature and humidity. This is always a challenge where I live, in cold Norway. It is now ten years since a fellow grower in my neighborhood provided me with an excellent specimen of *Phragmipedium* Paul Eugene Conroy and I was happy to introduce a new member to the population of my greenhouse, even if it was already overcrowded.

My 12 square metre polycarbonate greenhouse is insulated by two layers of bubble-plastic and has a layer of white paint shading. I use supplementary lighting all year which is controlled automatically and ensure good air movement by using a fan with a thermostat placed on the floor or on a bench. The temperature is kept at 18–25°C and I also have a humidifier to maintain humidity at 60–80%. When watering, all plants are lifted to test their weight to prevent giving too much or too little water. This plant has been repotted once and divided once.

The plant grew rapidly and got all the care and love possible, but over the years the awaited spike never appeared. Maybe I treated it too well? I tried to ignore it. It was moved to a corner of the greenhouse but not forgotten entirely. Then, one spring day early in 2014, ten years after the first encounter, the sign of a spike appeared. I moved the plant to a new place in the greenhouse where it got extra light and water. It has been in bloom for two months and with four flowers in succession.

Ed: Aud Gjerde is Chair of the Norwegian Orchid Society and has been a member of the OSGB since 2010.

Obituary – Walter Lefley

Val Micklewright and Peter Hall

Val Micklewright, Hon Sec OSGB writes:

Wally (to those who knew him) had a passion for orchids. He was a member of the OSGB for 33 years having joined in 1981 and Membership Secretary for more than ten until ill health forced him to retire in the spring of 2012.

His record keeping was exemplary, so neat and methodical that it was possible to download the data from his computer and for another to carry on his good work when he was taken to hospital at a critical time of year.

Wally, with his computer and printer, could be seen at many orchid shows around the country providing labels for the Society's displays, including the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. He was unflappable and always reliable, such a pleasure to work alongside. He regularly brought along tins of sweets to keep the display team's strength up.

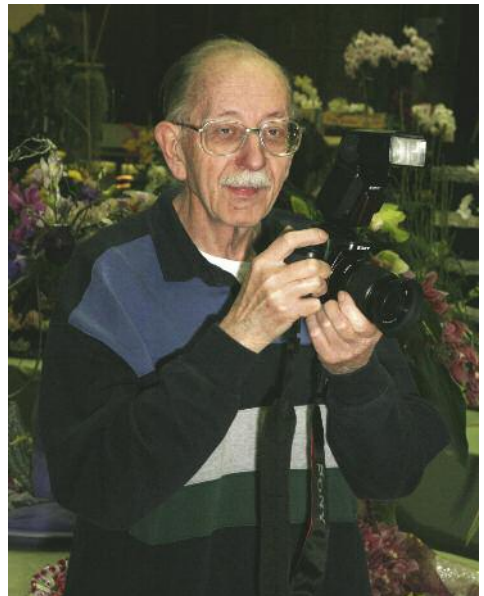
He was an enthusiastic stamp collector and was looking forward to finding the time to put his many boxes of stamps in order. In recognition of his many years service the OSGB gave him first day covers of the commemorative London Olympics stamps in 2012 with a special album. I do hope that he found time to enjoy them.

Wally died at home on 20 February 2014. He will be remembered as a perfect gentleman and we have missed him since his retirement, but now there is an even deeper void.

Peter Hall, Chairman Essex Orchid Group, writes:

Wally became Treasurer in the late 1990s. This was a job which he handled proficiently producing immaculate sets of data for the club at our AGMs. Wally was a quiet member but was happy to help members with advice and his knowledge was extensive. He produced our monthly newsletter for many years.

He was a good photographer and had a large collection of photographs from all the Society's shows. He was always ready to help by giving a talk illustrated with his photographs if we were short of a speaker. He ran our Christmas Quiz for many years and set all the questions, prepared the results chart and bought prizes for the winners.



OSGB Spring Show 2014

Henry Oakeley

The wind howled and sleet drove across the gardens with a blizzard force that deterred all but those with the most fanatical orchidomania who waded through the mud outside the Wisley glasshouse to exhibit in the OSGB Spring Show. But that was last year. This was 29 March 2014 and the sun shone, the birds went tweet-tweet (persistently), the temperature outside rose to 20°C, and the visitors poured into the show, with murmurings of 'I never knew there were so many different types of orchid' (and, of course, 'how do I get my orchid to flower again?').

Bournemouth Orchid Society staged a group of plants, full of interest. There were several pots of *Gennaria diphylla* – a green-flowered Mediterranean terrestrial with shiny perfoliate leaves, which I had never seen before. It has been two different *Habenaria*, as well as *Gymnadenia*, *Herminium*, *Satyrium*, *Peristylus*, *Digomphotis*, *Platanthera*, *Coeloglossum* and three different *Orchis* since 1800, so we should not be surprised at modern taxonomists changing names of orchids, they are just following a long tradition. Larger and more flamboyant were three pots of *Cypripedium formosanum* on the right of the display whose paired, plicate leaves appear to be cut with scissors. It does come from Formosa (present day Taiwan) and while the island and species name is Latin for 'beautiful', I find the corrugated inward-turned lip rather grotesque.



Bournemouth Orchid Society display at our spring show



Gennaria diphylla, a Mediterranean terrestrial, on the Bournemouth Orchid Society display



Dendrochilum tortile is rare in cultivation

Two 'jewels' were the rarely seen *Dendrochilum tortile* with its tassels of spiky orange flowers, and the floriferous miniature, *Stelis kefersteiniana* (shown under its synonym, *Pleurothallis flexuosa*). Elsewhere there was another clone with the cultivar name 'Stripe', which in any other genus might have warranted separate species status. The 100 or so, dark purple flowers, with densely hairy tepals, were a mere 0.7mm across. The tiny light-reflecting cells on the flowers are thought to be imitation nectar droplets to attract small flies, and the lines on the tepals are false nectar guides to direct the flies into the flower. The function of the hairs is uncertain, but they are present in many *Stelis*. In the wild, high humidity increases the pollination rate of these high-altitude, cloud forest orchids.



Stelis kefersteiniana (above and middle) exhibits the hairy tepals which are present in many *Stelis*



Stelis kefersteiniana 'Stripe' is a particularly appealing cultivar of this species



Ophrys fusca subsp. *iricolor* – one of the interesting European terrestrials on the Bournemouth Orchid Society display



Sarcoglottis grandiflora from Costa Rica, shown by Mike Penney

Bournemouth's European terrestrials, with various *Ophrys*, *Anacamptis* and *Orchis*, fulfilled our recent reclassification of our 'terrestrial' judging class as being orchids which have underground tubers and a dormant leafless period in their life cycle. Again, these provided much interest.

Mike Penney's group of terrestrials from Latin America had been in his possession for less than a year so they were labelled 'not for judging'. Their foliage is so attractive that they could also have been entered in the decorative foliage class. (*Ed*: There was some confusion over this relatively new class but our judging subcommittee has ruled that Class 24 is for plants usually grown for their decorative foliage only; plants usually grown for their flowers should not be entered in it.)

Best in Show was David Martin's *Dendrobium* *Cassiope* although Mike Buckingham's *Masdevallia* *Cassiope* (a pure coincidence) with 40 flowers must have been a close competitor.

A good reason for always buying plants in flower was given by *Cattlianthe* Hazel Boyd. The cultivar 'Red Sunset' exhibited by Sally Mill had flowers almost twice the size of those of the cultivar 'Red Stone' shown by Jo Kelleher on her display.

More education was to be had in the plant of *Maxillaria picta* (now, in 2014, *Brasiliorchis picta*, although in 2011 it was, briefly, *Bolbidium pictum*) which I had acquired a year ago, heavily infested with scale insects. Sprayed and cleaned, sprayed and cleaned, it had then been quarantined in the unheated spare bedroom on the windowsill, and abandoned.



Dendrobium Cassiope (moniliforme x nobile) belonging to David Martin won Best in Show



Henry Oakeley's *Brasiliorchis picta* has a strong perfume of hyacinths



Christine Carter's *Phalaenopsis* Pink Charm

I must have watered it three times in the year. It sat getting the morning sun until a week before the show when I noticed a strong perfume of hyacinths pervading the house. I found the culprit was the *Brasiliorchis* in full bloom on the windowsill, bone dry, with 40 flowers facing the glass. It had clearly enjoyed not being watered too often, being grown cool and getting full morning sun. Maybe that is what it enjoys in the Andes.

Despite their popularity, there were no specimen plants of *Phalaenopsis* to be seen; Christine Carter's pretty *Phalaenopsis* Pink Charm won the spectacular Sir Jeremiah Colman bowl. Will someone please try to grow some specimen plants and tell us how it is done (full instructions in previous *OSGBJ* articles)?



Malcolm Moodie (and Derek Belcher) were kept busy all day giving repotting talks and demonstrations (photo by Sam Hurley)

Space does not permit me to discuss all the plants in the competitive classes, but it was encouraging to see the range of orchids being grown, and we look forward to even more at the Autumn show and, of course, next year. Thanks to all.

Judging and potting demonstrations are all part of our shows; the latter were so popular that several plants were looking a bit shell-shocked by the end of the day from being repotted multiple times. New members were enlisted. Lady Colman presented the prizes and we are grateful to her and Sir Michael, and to The Sir Jeremiah Colman Gift Trust for their kind support to the Society.

The Wisley Glasshouse does seem to be a good venue for us, and the RHS staff were immensely helpful, and our own team, particularly Dusha Hayes who runs our judging, untiring. It is a lot of work; volunteers to organise the show next year are requested.

OSGB Spring Show 2014 trophy winners

Malcolm Moodie	Dulcie Rands Trophy Leonard Page Cup Rittershausen Challenge Trophy Sussex Shield
David Martin	Dorothy Pestell Cup Penney Trophy Robert Elliott Cup
Sam Hurley	Myers Trophy Solomon Trophy
Henry Oakeley	Alcock Cup Dolores Rands Trophy
Mike Buckingham	Pat Akehurst Trophy
Christine Carter	Sir Jeremiah Colman Bowl
Stuart Meeson	RHS Banksian Medal
Mike Penney	Peppe de Lullo Trophy



Lady Colman presenting the Dorothy Pestell Cup for Best in Show to David Martin (photo by Sam Hurley)

RHS London Orchid Show

Sam Hurley (photos by Sam Hurley)

If you love all things orchidaceous, visit an orchid show. There you will find everything you could wish for: displays, plants, sundries, books, advice and even inspiration. A fantasy orchid garden was created by the OSGB's display team, led by André Roux, to inspire newcomers and delight the faithful who return each year to the RHS London Orchid Show (LOS). On three sides of the display shallow slate steps led up to a trellised wooden arch and deep flower beds full of

orchids on either side of a winding mossy path.

It was an enchanting display with a wide variety of plants grown by the Society's members, which had been lent in great numbers this year. Species and hybrids featured in equal measure, such as Peter White's *Cymbidium* Tiger Tail (both normal and red form) and David Mathers's *Paphiopedilum rothschildianum*.



The OSGB created a fantasy orchid garden for the 2014 RHS London Orchid Show (photo by Henry Oakeley)

David Trendell's first-time flowering *Paphiopedilum* Liberty Taiwan (*micranthum* x *hangianum*) was spotted on the OSGB display by members of the RHS Orchid Committee as they looked around during the preview evening. It was sent to the Committee for consideration the following day and received an Award of Merit. The only regrettable part was that the single flower had to be removed so it could be painted by artist Deborah Lambkin, who records all orchids receiving a First Class Certificate or Award of Merit from the Committee.

Challenges with this year's exhibit included building the flat-pack arch which was, of course, supplied without screws long enough for the job, cleaning 50 boxes of moss and wrestling with 15 metres of cloth around the base to complete the display. We finished in good time this year without the usual frenzy during the last hour – a more sensible way to proceed but perhaps not as adrenalin-fuelled.

The OSGB offered repotting demonstrations alongside its display as a new initiative at the LOS. Derek Belcher and Val Micklewright volunteered to give these on the hour over the two-day show although, from the numbers of visitors grouped around the repotting bench each day, it appeared that the demonstrations ran continuously. They proved immensely popular and will be staged again next year at the EOC, albeit with more volunteer repotters to take the strain.

Many of the 35 exhibitors in the Lawrence Hall came from Europe but some were from further afield, including Taiwan and South America. An impressive white form of



Normal form of *Cymbidium* Tiger Tail (photo by Henry Oakeley)



Red form of *Cymbidium* Tiger Tail (photo by Henry Oakeley)



David Trendell's *Paphiopedilum* Liberty Taiwan 'Kathleen' AM/RHS had a busy season with outings to our Spring Show, April meeting and the LOS



Derek Belcher's repotting sessions at the LOS were immensely popular



Epidendrum stamfordianum was shown on RHS Garden Wisley's exhibit



Akere Orchids' display was dominated by an enormous white form of *Masdevallia coccinea* which was awarded a a CCC/RHS and won Best Orchid and Best Specimen Orchid in the show (photo by Henry Oakeley)

Masdevallia coccinea was displayed by Akerne Orchids and won Best Orchid and Best Specimen Orchid in the show. Kenneth Bruyninckx of Akerne Orchids told me that he suspects somewhere in the centre of it remains a relatively small pot! David McLaughlin's team from RHS Garden Wisley staged a display of orchids from their greenhouses. Botanical art was on view in the Lindley Hall across the road along with LOS regular, bookseller Mike Park, who had the honour of ringing the bell to close the show.

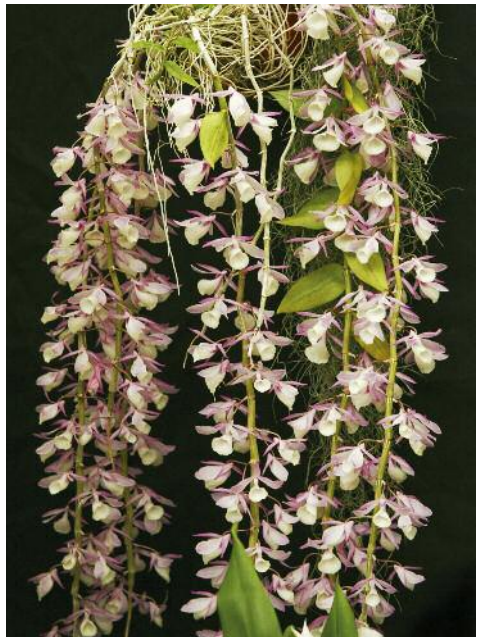
It was a marvellous time for species, especially dendrobiums. A large specimen of *Dendrobium densiflorum* graced the Lea Valley Orchid Society exhibit which won a Silver-Gilt medal. K J Orchids showed a *Dendrobium aphyllum* with trailing, pendant canes and *Dendrobium alaticaulinum* was



Dendrobium alaticaulinum on Equatorial Plants' display (photo by Henry Oakeley)



Dendrobium densiflorum on Lea Valley Orchid Society's display



Dendrobium aphyllum on K J Orchids' display (photo by Henry Oakeley)



This photo shows just three of the seven spikes on Burnham Nurseries' *Bulbophyllum purpureorhachis* 'Orchid Paradise' CCC/RHS (photo by Henry Oakeley)

one of the many intriguing smaller species on the Equatorial Plants display.

Interesting bulbophyllums were dotted about the show, several from Section *Megaclinium*, a group of unusual-flowered species from Africa which are, sadly, rarely cultivated. Burnham Nurseries displayed a large plant of *Bulbophyllum purpureorhachis* which received a Certificate of Cultural Commendation. The curious, easily-grown *Bulbophyllum falcatum*, a species from tropical Africa, was displayed by both Vacherot & Lecoufle and Kopf Orchideen.

Kopf Orchideen's display also featured a well-flowered *Chysis bractescens*, a species from Central America. Maren Talbot of Heritage Orchids displayed immaculate baskets of pleiones, perfect as usual, including the zingy *Pleione grandiflora*, and won a Silver-Gilt medal.



Bulbophyllum falcatum is an easy-to-grow species from tropical Africa

Hybrids, old and new, were well-represented throughout the show. McBean's Orchids included some of their own superb hybrids, such as *Cymbidium* Highland Wood 'Chelsea Green' (1982), as did Burnham Nurseries who showed *Oncidium* Widecombe Fair (1973). Laurence Hobbs displayed a container of the suitably-named *Dendrobium* Stardust 'Firebird' (1986) – this hybrid would later be seen staged as a 'tree' on the OSGB's Chelsea exhibit. Roellke Orchideen's *Trichopilia* Evaline (1995) is an excellent primary hybrid (*tortilis* x *marginata*) and has relatively large flowers for a small plant.

'The devil is in the detail' when it comes to displays and I was charmed by individual details on many of the exhibits, such as a 'tree' of *Cattleya coccinea* on the Equatorial Plants display; a tray of pristine

paphiopedilums by Vacherot & Lecoufle; and the leaf-shaped labels used by Ecuagenera. My favourite, predictably, was the mossy slate steps on the OSGB's display.



Heritage Orchids displayed immaculate baskets of pleiones, including *Pleione grandiflora*



Chysis bractescens on Kopf Orchideen's display

The OSGB display gained a Silver-Gilt medal. Gold medals were won by Burnham Nurseries, McBean's Orchids, Helen and David Millner and Vacherot & Lecoufle. Helen and David Millner won the prize for the Most Creative Orchid Exhibit and Vacherot &



McBean's Orchids created another Gold-medal winning display of *Cymbidium* and *Oncidium*



Two huge plants of their hybrid *Oncidium Widecombe Fair* were displayed on Burnham Nurseries' Gold medal-winning display



Roellke Orchideen's *Trichopilia Evaline* offers relatively large flowers on a small plant

Lecoufle were judged to have presented the Best Orchid Exhibit.

Many thanks to everyone who helped to build and man this year's display, in particular the core build team of Marc Harris, Penny Hayes, Val Micklewright, André Roux and Roy White; and to the members who generously lent their plants.

Ed: The RHS London Orchid Show will play host to the 17th European Orchid Conference next year, 8–12 April 2015. For full details of the show and conference, and to register, please visit: www.rhs.org.uk/eoclondon2015.org.uk



Laurence Hobbs showed plants of *Dendrobium Starburst 'Firebird'* grouped together in containers



An enchanting 'tree' of *Cattleya coccinea* created by Equatorial Plants



Moss-edged slate steps on the OSGB display led towards a trellis arch



Vacherot & Lecoufle's display won a Gold medal and Best Orchid Exhibit



Photographic and Art Competition 2014

Mary-Jane Hawkins

Following the AGM in June the annual Photographic and Art Competition took place. There were a good number of entries across the different classes showing the wide range of orchids which interest our members. The winners of each class are discussed below.

Class 1 – Small orchid photograph

This class received the highest number of entries of all the classes and was won by Nigel Johnson with a photograph of *Spiranthes cernua*. The sharpness of Nigel's close-up image shows the tiny hairs on the

sepals and captures perfectly the translucent, lace-like appearance of the flower's lip.

Class 2 – Small habitat photograph

Stuart Meeson's photograph of a British native *Cypripedium calceolus* peeking out from long grass in North Yorkshire was successful in Class 2. The photograph was taken in late May looking down onto the flower when the sun emerged shortly after a light rain shower with a Lumia 920 camera with Carl Zeiss lens.



Stuart Meeson's *Cypripedium calceolus* focuses on the golden flower rather than the whole plant

Nigel Johnson's image of *Spiranthes cernua* captures the lace-like fragility of these tiny flowers



Sam Hurley's *Cattleya* (*nobilior* x Marjorie Hausermann) was voted the winner of this year's Photographic Trophy

Class 3 – Large orchid photograph

This was another well-entered class and the winner was Sam Hurley's image of *Cattleya* (*nobilior* x Marjorie Hausermann) owned by Sally Mill. This plant formed part of the OSGB display at the Durham Show in 2013 and Sam noted the petals, in particular, which had a wonderful sheen and a subtlety of colour which was reminiscent of silk taffeta. Taken with a Nikon D3000, using the macro setting, the photograph has captured the beauty of the flower; the unfocused background highlights the flower which is sharp and clear in the foreground.

This photograph was also the very well-deserved winner of the OSGB Photographic Trophy this year.

Class 4 – Large habitat photograph

This class was also won by Sam Hurley with a photograph of *Dactylorhiza cordigera* subsp. *bosniaca* which was taken in an alpine meadow (around 1,600 metres) near Prokoško Lake in Bosnia. When Sam took her photograph the ground was rather boggy and there was snow still lying on the hillsides nearby although the plant was growing in full sun. There were a lot of plants growing together (a few purple flower spikes can be seen to the left of the main plant) but they were limited to this particular spot.

Sam wanted to convey a feeling of the mountains in summer in this image, including the conifers and bright sunlight, so lay flat on the ground to take this





Stuart Meeson's photograph of Kew's orchid display was taken in bright morning sunlight



Doreen Jenkinson's painting of *Cymbidium Green Valley Emerald* shows the flowers from a variety of angles

photograph with her Nikon D3000, using the aperture priority setting.

Class 5 – Orchid display photograph

A colourful photograph by Stuart Meeson of the orchid display in the Princess of Wales Conservatory at RBG, Kew won this class. Stuart visited Kew's orchid festival soon after it opened in February 2014 and took this photograph which includes many of the elements of the display, a *Phalaenopsis* pillar, *Vanda* arch and orchid-covered tree, with his Lumia 920 camera.

Class 6a – Orchid painting

A return to the previous format for this class proved a success, having several entries this year. The well-deserved winner was an attractive painting of *Cymbidium Green Valley Emerald* (*ensifolium* x *Green Plumage*)

by Doreen Jenkinson. This hybrid, registered by Green Valley Orchids of Taiwan in 2009, has peloric flowers and was for sale through Yih Cheng Orchids at the LOS this year. Doreen's painting cleverly showed the flowers from a variety of angles.

Class 6B – Orchid craft

This class was won by Kathy Trendell with a lovely piece of embroidery containing some intricate needlework which depicted two *Paphiopedilum* flowers.



Kathy Trendell's *Paphiopedilum* embroidery represents hours of work

Class 7 – Professional orchid photograph

Henry Oakeley came first, second and third in this class with photographs which had formed the backdrop of the OSGB display at Chelsea. Henry had used a ring flash to good effect to create interest in his photographs.

After the winners were announced and the presentations had been made, Henry Oakeley gave a short talk and offered some photographic tips to members.

Good photographs should contain drama – they should be sharp and of good composition. A good background can improve the composition and atmosphere of a photograph and having something which frames the focal point is always helpful. Busy backgrounds can detract from what should be the centre of attention but this can be avoided by having the foreground in focus and the background out of focus. Light is crucial for good images but using a camera flash can cause black shadows; this can be avoided by bouncing the flash off a piece of white paper. It is also important to consider the angle from which the plant is photographed to ensure it is seen from the best possible angle.



Henry Oakeley's photograph of *Prosthechea mariae* captures the delicacy of this orchid's lip

Several members entered the competition by post – please remember that this option is available to all members. We look forward to seeing your entries next year.

Writhlington pupils win research funding

Simon Pugh-Jones MBE



Rose Vallis, Emily Thearle and Chloe McGivern beside the exhibit they created at the Malvern show (photo by Sam Hurley)

Three girls in Year 8 at Writhlington School, aged twelve and thirteen, have won a £600 research grant from the Whitley Wildlife Conservation Trust (WWCT) for their project studying the laboratory conservation of the Common Spotted Orchid, *Dactylorhiza fuchsii*.

Emily, aged thirteen, explained, 'We are working to isolate and grow the particular mycorrhizal fungus associated with Common Spotted Orchids growing in the gardens of Ammerdown House, near our school, and then using this fungus to germinate seed collected from the same plants. We are hoping to find that this approach will select and grow plants which are best adapted for local conditions and therefore more successful when introduced into nearby habitats for conservation.'

Chloe, aged twelve, added, 'The techniques we are using in the laboratory are quite

complicated but we have carried out a lot of research and are very excited with the way our work is going so far. We collected root samples from orchids in the lawns at Ammerdown House and have isolated several fungal isolates which we are now testing with orchid seed to see if we get germination.'

The grant from WWCT allows the girls to buy the specialist scientific equipment they need for the work and to scale up their production for full field trials at Writhlington and at Ammerdown House.

Rosie, aged 13, hopes that the work will help others to try out similar techniques. 'We are looking forward to publishing our findings and hope to win a place at the finals of the UK National Science competition in March 2015 which will give us a chance to present our work to more of the public so they become aware of our native orchid species.'

Asked what the girls have learnt so far their answer was unanimous 'Mycorrhizal fungus is really cool.'

The girls' progress can be followed on the Writhlington School Orchid Project website: www.wsbeorchids.org

Ed: The Writhlington School Orchid Project began 20 years ago as an after-school garden club and its founder, Simon Pugh-Jones, was awarded an MBE in the 2013 New Year's Honours list for his services to education and the orchid project.

RHS Chelsea Flower Show

Sam Hurley (photos by Sam Hurley)



Sam Hurley and Val Micklewright proudly holding their second Gold medal (photo by Peter Johnson)

Chelsea is the gold standard of flower shows so the chance to design and build an exhibit there is the most wonderful opportunity – not to be undertaken lightly but certainly with a joyful spirit. The 2013 design team of Val Micklewright and Sam Hurley was enlarged this year to include André Roux whose creative talents are exceptional. As always, Val's skills of organization meant that we were as ready as we would ever be when the six-day build began. The display was greatly admired by the judges who awarded it a Gold medal and full marks.

We decided to highlight the variety and distribution of orchids around the world and settled on a display title: *The cosmopolitan*

world of orchids – where, why and how they grow. One metre tall *Renanthera* were displayed alongside minute epiphytes, such as Mike Penney's leafless *Chiloschista viridiflava* which has flowers less than a centimetre in diameter. Genera were arranged according to hemispheres: western on the left, eastern on the right with mainly northern and southern terrestrials across the centre. The western hemisphere featured 'mountains' topped with cloud forest-dwelling *Oncidium*, *Miltonia* and *Masdevallia* leading into a ravine of *Cattleya*. The eastern hemisphere featured *Paphiopedilum*, *Cymbidium*, tropical *Renanthera*, with *Phalaenopsis* growing epiphytically.



André Roux talking to visitors about the display he helped to design and build



The *Cattleya* ravine on the western hemisphere taking shape on day three
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Mike Penney's tiny, leafless *Chiloschista viridiflava*, native to Nepal and Thailand, added to the variety of orchids on display



The gorilla statue which became a temporary landmark (photo by Simon Waddilove)

Northern hemisphere orchids were represented by a range of *Dactylorhiza* and *Cypripedium*, including *Cypripedium californicum* from America and *Cypripedium fasciolatum* from China. A floriferous *Sarcochilus fitzgeraldii* from Australia and *Angraecum compactum* from Madagascar were among the southern hemisphere orchids.

Choosing to stay with last year's successful formula of a background site, we found ourselves in the same location by the Bull Ring Gate entrance. This made access to the site easy although it was disconcerting to be directed by traffic marshals to 'go round the one way system and park by the gorilla'. All part of the rich Chelsea experience.

It was a pleasure to find OSGB member Saul Walker on site in his new role as Chelsea



OSGB member and Chelsea Show Manager Saul Walker placed the first box on our 2014 display



Eulophia petersii grows several metres tall and has serrated edges to its leaves to protect it from grazing animals in the drier areas of Oman



A flowering *Vanilla polylepis* was an unusual addition to the display, courtesy of RBG Kew

Show Manager. Saul helped build the Society's Chelsea displays in 2012 and 2013 and, although he was obviously unavailable this year, he kindly placed the first box on our display with a suitable degree of ceremony.

We were delighted to welcome sponsorship from the Sultanate of Oman Ministry of Tourism for the second year, and were able to include two native Omani orchids on the display. *Eulophia guineensis* grows in Dhofar's mountain forests in southern Oman and *Eulophia petersii* grows alongside other succulent plants in hotter, drier areas of the Sultanate. The Society was grateful to Alison Cryer and Suzanne Halil of Representation Plus for arranging sponsorship and joining us on the display during the show.

Explaining to visitors that orchids grow in

Oman worked perfectly with our cosmopolitan theme and hopefully helped to promote Oman as a beautiful and varied holiday destination.

Early in the year we were approached by the BBC which wanted to include a short film about amateur exhibitors on *Countdown to Chelsea* as part of its pre-show television coverage. Val and I spent a day filming with the BBC's Simon Pass in March and are grateful for his superb editing skills which produced a charming film showing us preparing for Chelsea. Many visitors came to the stand as a result and were pleased to learn they could indeed grow orchids on their windowsills.

The Society is always proud to exhibit orchids grown by its members but also relies on its affiliates and friends to supply something slightly unusual. This year we were grateful to our friends at RBG Kew and Neo Tuan Hong of Neo Cheng Soon Farm in Singapore. Kew kindly lent us a flowering *Vanilla polylepis*, some British native *Dactylorhiza*, recognised by a surprising number of visitors who find them growing wild in their gardens, and a two metre tall *Eulophia petersii*.

Kim Solomon sourced some exotic *Renanthera* and 'antelope' *Dendrobium* hybrids (both little-seen and little-grown in the UK) from Singapore. She worked incredibly hard to ensure their importation went without a hitch and accompanied them to the UK from Singapore. Neo Tuan Hong was named as one of the top ten hybridisers by the Orchid Society of South East Asia last year and is recognised as an expert in Section *Spatulata* (antelope) dendrobiums. His



Kim Solomon and her grand-daughter Gabrielle with Mr Neo and his wife, Soon Hwee Hua, at his Singapore nursery which specialises in 'antelope' dendrobiums (photo by Kim Solomon)



Dendrobium (Goodwood Park Hotel Singapore x *lasianthera*) featured on the Chelsea display



Dendrobium lasianthera 'Singapore Glory' received an Award of Merit from the RHS Orchid Committee at Chelsea in 2011.

Renanthera 20th WOC Singapore 2011 and *Renanthera* Singaporeans were staged as a 'tree' and proved overwhelmingly popular with visitors. These orchids have a scrambling, monopodial habit and can grow to be terribly tall; they do require high light, temperature and humidity along with good air movement.

My sincere thanks to everyone involved, in particular all those who lent their plants so that we can continue to showcase the growing talents of our members. My thanks also to: Val Micklewright (organization); André Roux (inspiration); Henry Oakeley (motivation); Simon Waddilove (transportation); Ian Chrystie (moss maestro); Roy White (carpentry); Mike Buckingham (electrics); David Reilly (general assistant); Penny (ferns and fine finishing); Kim Solomon (orchids from Singapore); Peter White (orchids from Holland); RBG Kew (European and Omani orchids); Jeff Hutchings and Jacques Amand (hardy orchids); Nigel Johnson, Michael McIlmurray, Henry Oakeley and Robert Simmons (photographs); Robbies Photographics (printing and framing);

Smallfish Designs (layout design): Connie Hurley (calculating the Librarian's Cup results); members who lent their plants, manned the stand, helped at breakdown; and the Chelsea visitors who came to the display.

And then there were two

There were only two dedicated orchid exhibits within the Great Pavilion this year – the OSGB and McBean's Orchids. What a great change from the early years of the show when the orchid exhibits were staged in their own marquee. McBean's created a large background display full of *Cymbidium*, *Odontoglossum*-type *Oncidium* and *Paphiopedilum* (many bred by the nursery) all highlighted by ferns and staged around assorted tree trunks.

Once again, hardy orchids were featured by various nurseries, all of whom received Gold medals. Jacques Amand's display used *Cypripedium*, *Calanthe* and *Pleione* as 'bedding plants' to create a dense and stunning woodland setting. *Dactylorhiza* featured on Harperley Hall Farm Nurseries' and Kevock Garden Plants' displays of alpine and woodland plants.

Thailand's Nong Nooch Tropical Garden



McBean's Orchids won a Silver-Gilt medal for their orchid display (photo by Henry Oakeley)

The scrambling, monopodial habit of these *Renanthera* hybrids lent itself to being displayed as a 'tree'



Many of the orchids featured by McBean's Orchids were bred by the nursery (photo by Henry Oakeley)

display was made up of thousands of cut flowers, many of them orchids such as *Dendrobium* and *Mokara*. These were painstakingly placed one by one into wire-covered oasis forms to create snaking swirls, elephants and even rabbits, all set amidst gilded Buddhist temples.

Prize draw winner

Around 600 visitors entered our free prize draw to win £100's worth of orchids by choosing their favourite orchid on the display. Gwynedd Burgoyne, who lives near Southampton, was this year's lucky winner. The member's plant which gained the most votes was Henry Oakeley's spice-scented *Anguloa brevilabris*, a species from Colombia and north Peru.



The golden temples of Thailand's Nong Nooch Tropical Garden display could be seen from almost all points of the Great Pavilion

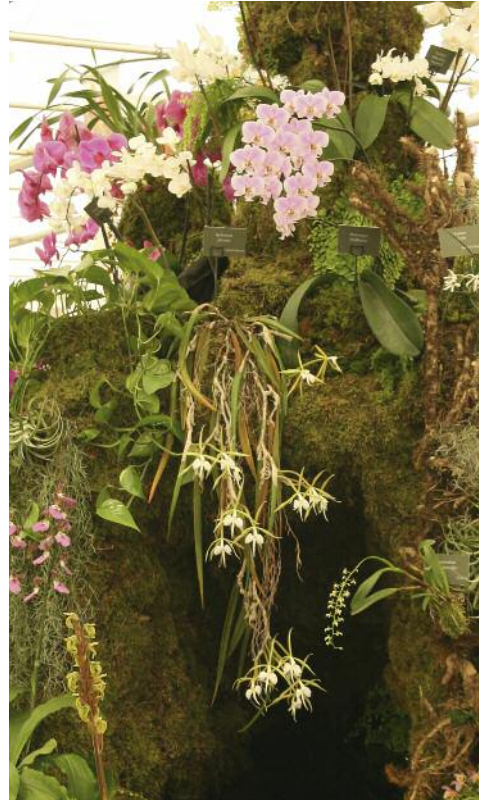
Mike Penney's *Epidendrum parkinsonianum*

Henry Oakeley

John Parkinson (c1772–1847) was the British Consul in Mexico from 1838 to 1840, and a keen plant collector. He sent the orchid, *Epidendrum parkinsonianum*, which came to bear his name, to the Duke of Bedford from Mexico, and it was named by John Lindley in *Curtis's Botanical Magazine* (1840) Vol 66, t. 3778. He had sent back so many plants to William Hooker at Kew that this volume of the *Botanical Magazine* was dedicated to him.

Mike Penney's *Epidendrum parkinsonianum* has graced the OSGB stand at Chelsea for a dozen years, steadily growing and increasing its flower count. It had 15 flowers when it hung over the mouth of the cave in 2007 and at this year's Chelsea it had 20. Throughout the period of his ownership, he has grown it in a pot in his intermediate greenhouse.

Well-grown it is, so what makes a grower gain a Cultural Certificate from the RHS? There are no detailed rules, only the one requirement – that the plant and/or the grower should 'show evidence of great cultural skill'. It is clearly understood that this means the plant should be free of disease and well-flowered. It does not have to be a specimen plant any longer; plants with a single leading bulb can still be judged to have been grown with great cultural skill. Plants in the wild can be enormous, a *Grammatophyllum speciosum* weighing two tons was found in a tree in Malaysia in the last century, but one is not competing against nature.



Mike's *Epidendrum parkinsonianum* hanging over the cave entrance on our Chelsea display in 2007

Presentation has always been a crucial (but undocumented) requirement in judging plants for the other awards – the Award of Merit and the First Class Certificate. For these the flowers should face all around the plant, either in one direction, or evenly left/right along a flower scape – depending on the plant's normal habit; *Cattleya* flowers should not be wired with excessive 'scaffolding'; staking should be neat etc.



Mike Penney's *Epidendrum parkinsonianum* on our Chelsea display in 2011 (photo by Sam Hurley)

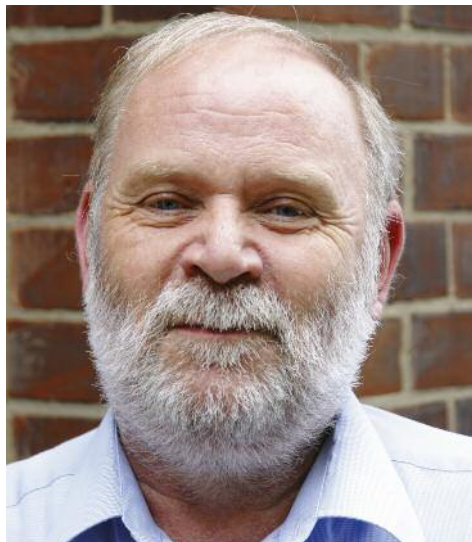


Mike Penney's *Epidendrum parkinsonianum* retains the natural sheathing on its pseudobulbs (photo by Sam Hurley)

Mike's plant had retained all the natural sheathing on its pseudobulbs, and were it not for this, would, I believe, have gained him a Cultural Certificate from the RHS Orchid Committee. His plant showed prolonged excellence in cultivation over many years. It was well-flowered, the flowers faced appropriately and it was disease free. It was not as large as some which have been seen in the wild and it did have those wispy bracts with which nature endowed it...

The OSGB has been very proud of Mike's cultural achievements and the wide range of interesting species which he grows; we look forward to seeing this gorgeous plant again at Chelsea for many years to come.

Ed: Mike Penney has been a member of the OSGB since 1990 and specialises in growing orchid species, mainly from Asia. He is a British Orchid Council judge and Secretary of the Croydon Orchid Group.



Mike Penney has generously lent his plants to OSGB displays for many years

Epidendrum parkinsonianum
MEXICO: C. AMERICA

Vanilla polylepis

Maxillariella vanabilis
(Blanchet ex Lindl.) M. A. R. B. & C. C. C. M.
MEXICO TO NEW ZEALAND

Phoradendron



A rainforest in your home

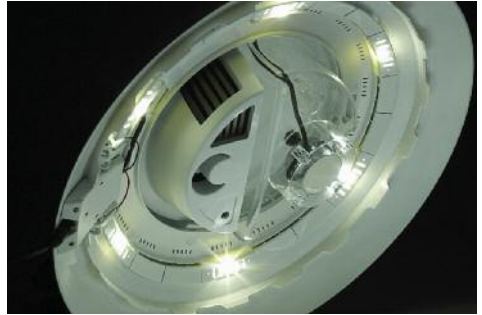
Barry Reynolds (photos courtesy of biOrbAIR)

How did a tropical rainforest make it into our homes? I am a designer who loves the natural world and five years ago I had an idea about using biOrb aquarium technologies for growing tropical plants. At first it was just a dream, but I fell in love with the idea that you could have a slice of tropical rainforest in your home. Modern technology could actually get you closer to nature, instead of further away from it.

With this in mind I built a prototype to bring the natural world into the home in a way that has never been done before. I will admit that the early prototypes were a bit hotchpotch and some of the components were fixed together with a glue gun, but, importantly, they worked. Through a long process of testing and problem solving, a product slowly started to evolve.

I refined the design so that it was not only functional, but beautiful too – I was determined it had to work as a piece of furniture. The result is the biOrbAIR which looks deceptively simple but hides a lot of technology. You can put it in a windowless room and it will provide all the light plants need for growth.

Traditionally, contained plants can suffer from rotting roots, but the biOrbAIR cleverly uses capillary action from a reservoir to hydrate the growing medium from below. A hidden internal fan circulates air inside the vessel. It constantly draws in a little external air to prevent stagnation and then expels clean, odourless air through a carbon filter.



Modern technology within the biOrbAIR lid, such as LED lights and carbon filters, helps to provide ideal growing conditions

But the most effective part is the humidity control which senses when the humidity inside the vessel drops and automatically dispenses fine, atomised water vapour onto the plants to keep the humidity constant. It quite literally creates its own weather.

I always spray new plants to help them adjust to being transferred into the biOrbAIR and of course they also need feeding – I use a small atomiser. I have found that non-epiphytic orchids grow well in the coir, supplied for use in the base of the biOrbAIR, as it does not hold excess moisture. Water which is low in total dissolved salts (TDS) is supplied for use in the misting reservoir.

The biOrbAIR is a perspex globe in which one can successfully grow small-scale tropical plants – orchids, ferns and carnivorous plants

A rainforest in your home

Although the biOrbAIR maintains the correct humidity and air circulation, orchids still require regular flushing to prevent an accumulation of salts.

For more information about biOrbAIR, including a video showing how to set one up, visit www.biorbair.com

Ed: A special offer has been extended to OSGB members who can purchase biOrbAIRs

at the reduced price of £250.00 plus p&p (RRP £399.00). Members can enter the promotional code **OS2014** into the website to claim their discount or telephone direct on 01603 710339, quoting the code to one of the sales team who will take payment over the phone. They can also send an email to sales@reef-one.com with the code in the subject title, including their contact details and the sales team will get in touch.



Andy Phillips manicuring plants in a newly-set up biOrbAIR at the Malvern show (photo by Sam Hurley)

Tour to Ecuador – April 2016

Sally Mill

Following three successful tours to Ecuador (in March 2006, April 2009 and November 2012), the OSGB is now planning another tour in April 2016. This is some way off but these tours take time to organise, and we need to know whether there is enough interest before further arrangements can be made.

The tour promises to be a 'once in a lifetime' (or twice, or three times for those who have been before) opportunity to see orchids in their natural habitat. It will be run by Ecuagenera, whose knowledge of the local orchids is unsurpassed. This tour will mainly visit sites in the north of Ecuador, including the Choco mountain chain and towards the Colombian border. We expect to see many orchids including species of *Dracula*, *Lepanthes*, *Lycaste*, *Masdevallia*, *Maxillaria*, *Phragmipedium*, *Pleurothallis*, *Prosthechea*, *Selenipedium*, *Sobralia*, and more.

The tour will also include the following:

- Colonial Quito and Quito Botanic Garden
- Mindo, a cloud forest area renowned for its bird life as well as its orchids
- Otavalo market, one of the most colourful in South America
- The culture and tradition of the Awa people

- The spa town of Baños
- The wonderful Ecuagenera nursery

You do not need to be really fit to enjoy this tour, as many orchids can be seen beside roads and tracks. There will also be many forays into the jungle or scrub for those with a little more stamina. However, it is important to bear in mind that many of the areas to be visited are at high altitude, ie above 3,000 metres.

If you have read articles in the *Journal* or heard Society talks about the trips to Ecuador, or missed out on a previous tour, and would like to visit this wonderful orchid-rich country, please contact Sally Mill (Treasurer), tel: 01293 547896, or e-mail: osgbtreasurer@hotmail.co.uk



The diminutive *Lepanthes orion* is native to Colombia and Ecuador (photo by Sam Hurley)

Details:

16 day guided tour run by Ecuagenera (provisional departure on 4 April, return on 21 April 2016).

Costs:

Fully inclusive tour: US\$2,720 (about £1,700) per person in a double room
US\$3,360 (about £2,100) for a single room

(includes all hotels, transport, transfers, food and water but does not include beverages)

Flight: Approx £1,000 per person

Spending money: Just a little for beverages and souvenirs

Napier Hall meetings

Table show report

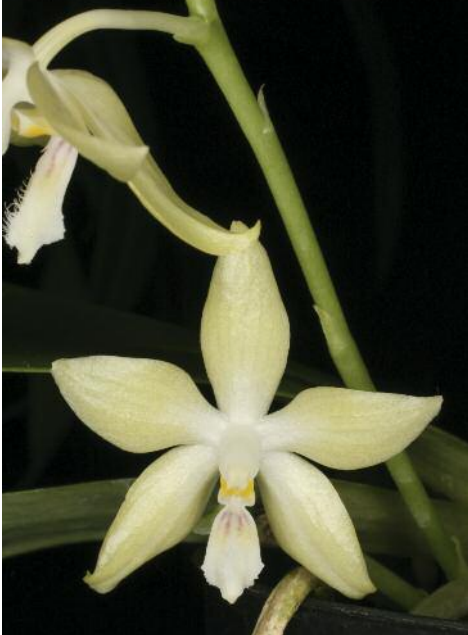
André Roux (photos by Robert Simmons)

April and May 2014

'What's in a name? that which we call a rose/
By any other name would smell as sweet.'

Juliet's oft-quoted line might sum up your point of view concerning orchids and their names but, tongue-twistingly tricky pronunciation aside, there is undoubtedly more to be learned.

Take the Philippine species *Phalaenopsis pallens*, for example. *Phalaenopsis* is derived from the Greek words 'phalaina' (moth – or whale, as we recently discovered) and 'opsis' (appearance), an apt description given that



Phalaenopsis pallens is characterised by its yellow-green coloured flowers (photo by Henry Oakeley)

the type species (*Phalaenopsis amabilis*) has white flowers and at first sight could have been romantically imagined as a cloud of moths. John Lindley attributed the specific epithet *pallens* to this species in 1850, pin-pointing the sallow, yellow-green colour that characterises the flowers of this species.

Pleione albiflora bears beautiful, predictably white flowers, the lip intricately fringed and embellished with rows of distinct lamellae which lead pollinators to the centre of the bloom. The generic name *Pleione* is also Greek but in this instance has mythological references. Pleione, wife of Atlas, was a sea-nymph who bore seven daughters, the Pleiads. She was also known as the sailing queen and ancient Greek mariners were cautioned to set sail only between May and November when the Pleiades star cluster was visible. This species from Burma and north-western Yunnan province, China, was only described in 1983 and is still considered rare, with many of the plants in cultivation incorrectly named.

Of course, even experts are fallible and the unsuitably named *Paphiopedilum micranthum* is a case in point.

Unquestionably one of the most beautiful in this genus and bearing a large bubblegum balloon of a labellum, 'small flower' it is not. This species had been published in 1951 by Tang and Wang, botanists working at what is today the Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Science, in Beijing. Their type description was of a miniature slipper orchid, collected in spring in south-eastern Yunnan province, with a flower 2cm in diameter –





Neville Dunn's *Guarianthe aurantiaca* var. *amarela* is the yellow form of this species

actually a bud, borne on an immature inflorescence, which had been manually opened before pressing. Largely as a result of *Paphiopedilum micranthum*'s inaccessible limestone mountain habitat, three decades passed before an accurate drawing and measurements of a mature flower were published, courtesy of Liu and Chen at the Kunming Institute of Botany, Academy of Science in Yunnan.

It is proper, if not surprising, that people feature widely in the generic or specific names of orchids. William Cattley, whose horticultural prowess marked him out as one of the first people in early 1800s England to successfully grow epiphytic orchids, is



David Martin's *Rhynchostele cervantesii* was previously classified as an *Odontoglossum* and then a *Lemboglossum*

honoured in the magnificent genus *Cattleya*. The highly variable Central American species *Guarianthe* (previously *Cattleya*) *aurantiaca* is thought to be a bridge between the genera *Cattleya* and *Epidendrum*. Its new generic name is derived from ‘guaria’ (a Costa Rican vernacular word for orchid) and ‘anthos’ (flower), and *aurantiaca* describes the typical brilliant orange-red colour of the flowers. The plant exhibited in April, however, was qualified with the varietal *amarela*, Portuguese for yellow.

Another orchid enduring an identity crisis is *Rhynchostele cervantesii*, a strikingly elegant Mexican endemic. As a new species to science in 1825 it was placed in the genus *Odontoglossum*, from which it was distinguished in 1984 as a *Lemboglossum*, a term referring to the boat-shaped callus on the lip; scarcely a decade had elapsed before its transferral to *Rhynchostele*. Nevertheless, it continues to pay tribute to Vicente de Cervantes (1755-1829), a Spaniard who began studying Latin and botany while an apprentice pharmacist. He was selected to join the royal botanical expedition to Mexico in 1776, two years later founding the botanic garden in Mexico City and securing the post of Professor of Botany at the city’s university. His significant contribution to the knowledge of Mexican flora concluded with his *Hortus Mexicanus*, a collection of some 1,400 plant species.

Ernest Henry Wilson, nicknamed ‘Chinese’ Wilson, was born in 1876 in Chipping Camden and became a prolific plant hunter. His first expedition to China, in the employ of the famous Veitch Nursery to search for the

Handkerchief tree (*Davidia involucreta*), lasted three years and culminated in a haul of approximately 400 different plants. Wilson’s travels took him to the Orient, Australasia, India and Africa and of the 2,000-odd new plants he discovered or sourced, some 60 attest to his legacy. The charming *Phalaenopsis wilsonii* is one, a species from southern China, Myanmar and Vietnam.

The eminent botanist Carlyle Luer specialised in classification of the pleurothallid alliance and it was fitting to see a fine specimen of *Dryadella aviceps* gracing the display table in May. He segregated *Dryadella* from *Masdevallia* in 1978, the name translating as the diminutive of *dryad* and particularly apt for this genus



Francis Quesada-Pallares’ *Phalaenopsis wilsonii* is named after its discoverer – Ernest Henry ‘Chinese’ Wilson





Christine Bartlett's diminutive *Dryadella aviceps* grows in moss mounted on cork bark

of miniature epiphytic plants. In Greek mythology, the dryads were nymphs whose entire lives, from the moment of their birth, were associated with the care and protection of specific trees. *Aviceps* alludes to the flower buds which resemble birds' heads, not especially relevant when one is admiring fully open blooms.

Yet, for all the wealth of knowledge and history that orchid names convey, many are far less grand or intellectual and allow us to simply relish the beauty of their flowers. The fragrant delights of *Dendrobium* Walnut Valley Cassie (Gillian Leaney x Gai Ellen) are no less appealing. But I can surely not be the first to wonder if there is some couched political message lurking within the curvaceous *Paphiopedilum* Liberty Taiwan 'Kathleen' AM/RHS...



Claudine Baxter's *Dendrobium* Walnut Valley Cassie

The flowers of *Dryadella aviceps* are worthy of close inspection



Bulbophyllum A-doribil Candy Ann 'Lavender Lady' is one of Bill's favourite bulbophyllums

Lecture report

April 2014

Bill Thoms – *Bulbophyllum* culture

Sam Hurley (photos by Bill Thoms)

Bill Thoms visited the UK in April on a lecture tour, proposed and co-ordinated by Francis Quesada-Pallarés and part-sponsored by the British Orchid Council (BOC), giving seven lectures to orchid societies around the country and to BOC judges at the RHS London Orchid Show. His talk to the OSGB about *Bulbophyllum* culture included superb images of his plants, many of which have been awarded by the American Orchid Society (AOS).

Bulbophyllum is the largest genus in the orchid world with over 2,500 species. Flower shapes, colours and sizes vary widely and some have an overpoweringly unpleasant smell, such as *Bulb. echinolabium*. They can be found around the world in tropical and subtropical regions; mainly in the Indo-Pacific basin, an area covering 12 million square miles, mostly in mountainous terrain. *Bulbophyllum loniflorum* is the most widespread species geographically and is native to Africa, Indonesia, and the Pacific islands east of New Guinea.

Most bulbophyllums grow in extremely humid forest and are constantly wet. Bill strongly recommended 'more water longer'

and regular feeding – ‘weakly weekly’ is his motto. His regime involves soaking them thoroughly with plain water first and then watering with half-strength fertiliser. This results in less fertilizer being wasted, because the plant is already properly hydrated. Rainwater is preferable although tap water can be used if allowed to stand for several hours so the chlorine evaporates before it is used. Good airflow at all times (day and night) with bright shade (enough that the light still casts the faintest of shadows) can lead to the plant making multiple new growths each season.

Bill lives in central Florida and has a 5.5m x 7.5m greenhouse. His plant-packed tables have a lip around the edge to prevent pots falling off, and shallow trays to hold ‘more water longer’. He grows in plastic pots using *Sphagnum* moss with Styrofoam peanuts in the base for improved drainage. Bill recommends placing mounted plants horizontally because this allows them to absorb more water. Slugs and snails may be a problem in such a humid environment but can be controlled with slug bait/pellets; other pests can be treated with insecticides – but only when conditions are cool.

Bill’s presentation included photographs of those *Bulbophyllum* species which are readily obtainable, along with a wonderful array of his own cultivars and hybrids. Many are given the cultivar name ‘A-doribil’ which is derived from the names Doris (Bill’s wife) and Bill, and a pun on ‘adorable’. When judging plants, Bill believes colours should be distinct, that richer is better, and that if a plant has only a single flower it should be



Bill Thoms enjoying the sights of London in Trafalgar Square (photo by Sam Hurley)



Bulbophyllum longiflorum is the most widespread species geographically



Bulbophyllum inunctum 'A-doribil', from Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo, has distinct, candy-striped markings



Bulbophyllum longissimum 'Pink Showers' CCE/AOS has flowers up to 50cm long



Bulbophyllum medusae 'A-doribil' requires frequent, heavy watering to flower well

perfect, while flowers on plants with multiple blooms should be uniform.

Knowledge of a hybrid's parentage can help in understanding how its flowers should look; hybrids made with *Bulb. putidum* and *Bulb. fascinator* will inherit their low flower count. Time of year and climate can also affect the quality and colour of flowers. *Bulbophyllum lobbii* has been used widely in hybridizing and gives some dominant traits to its offspring, namely swept back petals, pinching at the base of the dorsal sepal, and sickle-shaped lateral sepals.

Flower size can vary enormously. The Thai species *Bulbophyllum longissimum* has flowers 40-50cm long while those of *Bulb. dennisii* are only 7cm tall, on a 10cm tall plant. The flowers of *Bulb. medusae*, a species from Thailand through to Borneo, are among the most spectacular – but to do well it requires frequent, heavy watering.

Some *Bulbophyllum* have flowers arranged in umbels. Species such as the easy-to-grow *Bulb. flabellum-veneris* have flat flowers, unlike the tubular flowers of *Bulb. makoyanum*. The flowers of *Bulb. auratum*, native to Sikkim, Malaysia and the Philippines, exude a gelatinous goo, which resembles drops of water, to attract pollinating fungus gnats.

There is a group of giant-leaved, curiously-flowered bulbophyllums from New Guinea which include *Bulb. orthosepalum*, *Bulb. fletcherianum*, *Bulb. phalaenopsis*, *Bulb. macrobulbum*, and *Bulb. agastor*. *Bulbophyllum fletcherianum* can grow leaves over two metres in length and the flowers of *Bulb. phalaenopsis* smell of rotting meat.



Bulbophyllum makoyanum 'A-doribil' AM/AOS has tubular flowers



Bulbophyllum fletcherianum is not an obvious candidate for windowsill culture



Flowers of *Bulbophyllum auratum* 'A-doribil' exude a gelatinous goo which attracts pollinating fungus gnats



Bulbophyllum macrobulbum 'Magnifico' AM/AOS is native only to New Guinea

Relatively few *Bulbophyllum* hybrids have been made and registered to date (around 200), but Bill enjoys breeding from the many plants he grows. *Bulbophyllum* Ed Gilliland 'A-doribil' HCC/AOS (registered in 2001) was made by crossing his award-winning species *Bulb. amplebracteatum* subsp. *carunculatum* 'Magnifico' CBR-AM/AOS with *Bulb. bicolor* 'A-doribil' AM/AOS.



Bulbophyllum Ed Gilliland 'A-doribil' HCC/AOS is a spectacular hybrid



Bulbophyllum Doris Dukes 'A-doribil' AM/AOS is named after Bill's wife



Bulbophyllum kubahense is a newly discovered species from Borneo

Bulbophyllum Doris Dukes is a primary hybrid made with *Bulb. fascinator* and *Bulb. rothschildianum* (registered in 1996). Bill's wife liked it so much she agreed he could name it after her.

New species continue to be discovered and described, such as *Bulb. kubahense* from Borneo (2011). This is just beginning to be used in hybridising and offers a new direction for the future; I look forward to seeing what beauties Bill will create with it.

Ed: Bill Thoms is a *Bulbophyllum* specialist and has received over 43 cultural awards for them from the American Orchid Society. With his wife, Doris Dukes, he has been growing orchids for 40 years. His informative and whimsical book *Bulbophyllums The Incomplete Guide: From A to Why?* is available to borrow from the OSGB library or to buy direct from Bill (price about £31.00 including postage to UK), e-mail: dukesthoms@verizon.net



Dominica is the least developed of the Caribbean islands – a pristine island covered in a blanket of forest

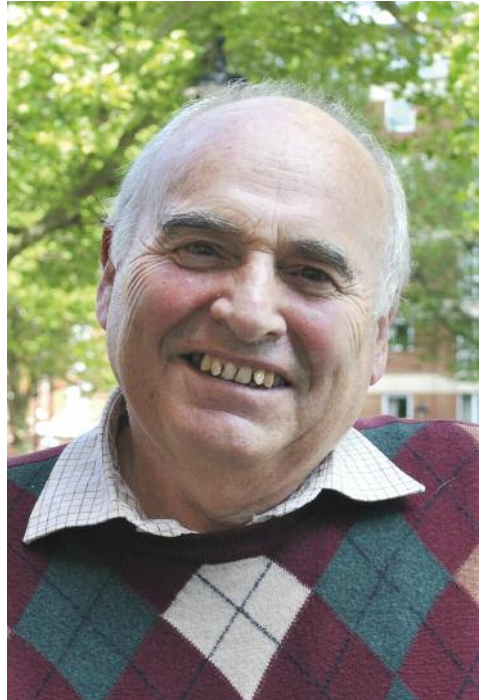
May 2014

Bill Haldane – Hunting orchids in the eastern Caribbean

Mary-Jane Hawkins (photos by Bill Haldane)

Bill Haldane gave a fascinating talk about hunting orchids in the eastern Caribbean, accompanied by some of his photographs. Bill's trips to the eastern Caribbean included the islands of Dominica and Barbados (visited during January and February) and St Lucia (visited in November).

Before departing Bill did some research but was only able to find one book, *Native Orchids of the Eastern Caribbean* (Macmillan Caribbean, 1988) by Julian Kenny. This book revealed around 160 orchid species which grow in the eastern Caribbean, but of these about 80 species only grow in Trinidad. The relative isolation of this group of islands is why so few orchid species are found there.



Bill Haldane (photo by Sam Hurley)



Stony beaches and big waves characterise the Atlantic coastline of Caribbean islands



A waterfall on the White River in Dominica – sulphur particles make the water appear white

Dominica is the least developed of the Caribbean islands; indeed, it is claimed it would still be recognisable to Columbus. This pristine island is covered in a blanket of forest with a central chain of mountains and its road system, although improved over the last 20 years, is still relatively primitive. Winter temperatures range from 21°C to 27°C but drop by around 5°C in the mountains. Like all Caribbean islands, the eastern Atlantic coastline is characterised by stony beaches and big waves while the west coast has sandy beaches and calmer seas.

Bill and a local guide trekked to see a superb waterfall where the river empties from a plateau. The White River, so called because particles of sulphur from a nearby volcano

make the water appear white, rises rapidly after rain and has to be criss-crossed many times while trekking. On this trek Bill found an orchid which he had not seen in his book. He contacted the local Department of Agriculture and was referred to the head of the Forestry Department who identified it as *Spathoglottis plicata*. It originates from the Philippines and had travelled steadily westward by wind borne seed to West Africa before being lifted over the Atlantic by Hurricane David in 1979 and deposited in the eastern Caribbean where it has thrived. The hurricane was so severe that it stripped much of the vegetation from the mountains in Dominica.

Another orchid identified by islanders as



Spathoglottis plicata originates from the Philippines but was carried to the eastern Caribbean by Hurricane David in 1979

native to Dominica is *Papilionanthe* (previously *Vanda*) Miss Joaquim, a hybrid registered in 1893 and the national flower of Singapore. It was obviously brought to Dominica at some point, escaped from cultivation, and has now been growing wild on the island long enough for islanders to believe it is native.

Bill saw a number of *Epidendrum* including *Epidendrum angustilobum* (previously *latifolium*); *Epidendrum difforme* which has green/white flowers and *Epidendrum ciliare* (known locally as the Eyelash Orchid) which was common. He also found *Bletia purpurea*; *Laelia* (previously *Schomburgkia*) *gloriosa*; *Oncidium altissimum* which has trailing spikes; *Ornithidium coccineum* (previously



Vanda Miss Joaquim (registered 1893) has been growing wild on Dominica for so long islanders consider it a native orchid

Maxillaria coccinea) which has variable flowers from a fleshy pink to a vivid red colour; and *Ornithidium inflexum* (previously *Maxillaria inflexa*).

An endless frustration was being able to recognise orchids from their growth habit but being unable to identify them as they were not in flower. Ones which Bill could identify included *Maxillaria virguncula* (previously *guadalupensis*), the tiny *Stelis* (previously *Pleurothallis*) *imraei*, *Trichosalpinx dura* and *Trichosalpinx memor*.

Once again, habitat destruction is a danger to native orchids. The main host for Caribbean orchids seems to be old citrus bushes and trees which are known locally as White Cedar. The latter often has several



Ornithidium coccineum has variable flowers, from a fleshy pink to a vivid red colour



Epidendrum ciliare has a beautifully fringed lip (photo by Henry Oakeley)

different species growing on a single tree. However, White Cedars are highly prized by local carpenters for making furniture and when they are cut down the orchids living on them are left on the ground to die. Local schools teach children that orchids are parasites so re-education is required to preserve the local flora. Bill attempted to raise their awareness of local orchids by strapping tree fern trunks to a garden fence and then attaching discarded orchids. Recent reports say the orchids are doing well and in flower.

In Barbados, en route to Dominica, the first orchid Bill saw was a large *Myrmecophila* (previously *Schomburgkia*) with rock-hard pseudobulbs growing on a tree by his hotel. The interior of Barbados, where much of the land does not lend itself to mechanised farming, consists of land which has been

exhausted by sugar farming. However, he saw *Laelia* (previously *Schomburgkia*) *gloriosa*; *Camaridium vestitum* (previously *Maxillaria conferta*), *Epidendrum nocturnum*, and *Epidendrum ciliare*.

Bill visited an orchid 'farm' where he found more *Spathoglottis plicata*. The orchid farm had a wide range of orchids in pots; many had lost their labels, were not being fed and were in need of repotting, but the majority of them were flowering beautifully.

St Lucia is much more developed than Dominica and has a thriving holiday industry although large parts of the island are still undeveloped. Bill found *Epidendrum difforme* growing on the remains of an old British Fort overlooking the town of Castries, and a specimen-sized plant of *Epidendrum ciliare*

growing high up on a Royal Palm tree (*Roystonea regia*) at the back of a garage.

Other orchids included *Ponthieva petiolata* growing on woodland slopes of one of the two volcanic peaks (the Pitons) and *Polystachya concreta* which has tiny flowers measuring only 4mm across. Bill also saw epidendrums in a private garden growing successfully in a medium of large gravel and coral with very little organic matter.

Ed: Bill Haldane is a long standing member of OSGB and has been growing orchids for 40 years since he lived in Bermuda. He has had a number of roles within the orchid-growing community including Chairman of Devon Orchid Society. Since moving to Suffolk four years ago he has joined both the Cambridge Orchid Society and Suffolk Orchid Society.



An enormous plant of *Epidendrum ciliare* growing on a Royal Palm tree in St Lucia

The Royal Horticultural Society Orchid Committee

11 April meeting photos by David Ridgeway

Full descriptions and illustrations of the plants awarded by the Committee are published in *The Orchid Review*. Subscription details are available from the RHS, tel: 020 7821 3401, e-mail: membership@rhs.org.uk or website: www.rhs.org.uk/orchidreview

The Committee met on **1 April 2014** at the RHS Great London Plant Fair and agreed the following awards:

Award of Merit

Lysudamuloa Le Saut Geoffroy 'Verde'
(*Angulocaste* Augres x *Sudamerlycaste locusta*)

Oncidium Cotil de Langlois (registration pending) 'Les Buis' (Victoria Village x Beauvallet)

Oncidium Ville Bree 'Noirmont Tower' (Black Diamond x Grands Vaux)

All three plants raised, registered and exhibited by the Eric Young Orchid Foundation

Certificate of Cultural Commendation

Christopher Ryan, Orchid Collection Manager, RBG Kew for *Stelis emarginata* 'Kew', a species from Mexico to Peru



Lysudamuloa Le Saut Geoffroy 'Verde' AM/RHS



Oncidium Cotil de Langlois (registration pending) 'Les Buis' AM/RHS



Oncidium Ville Bree 'Noirmont Tower' AM/RHS



Stelis emarginata 'Kew' CCC/RHS



Paphiopedilum Liberty Taiwan 'Kathleen' AM/RHS



Rhyncholaeliocattleya Golf Green 'Hairy Pig' AM/RHS



A white form of *Masdevallia coccinea* 'Akerne' CCC/RHS

The Committee met on **11 April 2014** at the RHS London Orchid Show and agreed the following awards:

Award of Merit

Paphiopedilum Liberty Taiwan 'Kathleen' (*micranthum* x *hangianum*) raised and registered by Taiwan Tristar and exhibited by David Trendell

Rhyncholaeliocattleya Golf Green 'Hairy Pig' (*Cattleya* Moscombe x *Rhyncholaelia digbyana*) registered by J D Liou and exhibited by Chantelle Orchids

Certificate of Cultural Commendation

Akerne Orchids, Belgium, for a white form of *Masdevallia coccinea* 'Akerne', a species from Colombia

Burnham Nurseries for *Bulbophyllum purpureorhachis* 'Orchid Paradise', a species from the Ivory Coast and west Central Africa



Close-up details of the flower spikes of *Bulbophyllum purpureorhachis* 'Orchid Paradise' CCC/RHS



Bulbophyllum purpureorhachis 'Orchid Paradise' CCC/RHS



Gomiltidium Kulnura Calypso 'Flash Dance' AM/RHS

The Committee met on **19 May 2014** at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show and agreed the following awards:

Award of Merit

Gomiltidium Kulnura Calypso 'Flash Dance'
(*Miltonidium* Tropical Heat Wave x *Oncidesa* Kulnura Gold)

Gomiltidium Kulnura Calypso 'Sarah'
(*Miltonidium* Tropical Heat Wave x *Oncidesa* Kulnura Gold)

Oncidesa Kulnura Triumph 'Barrita Fuss'
(*Gomesa* Kulnura Radiance x *Oncidesa* Kulnura Gold)

All three plants raised, registered and exhibited by S Barrie, Barrita Orchids, Australia

Preliminary Certificate of Commendation

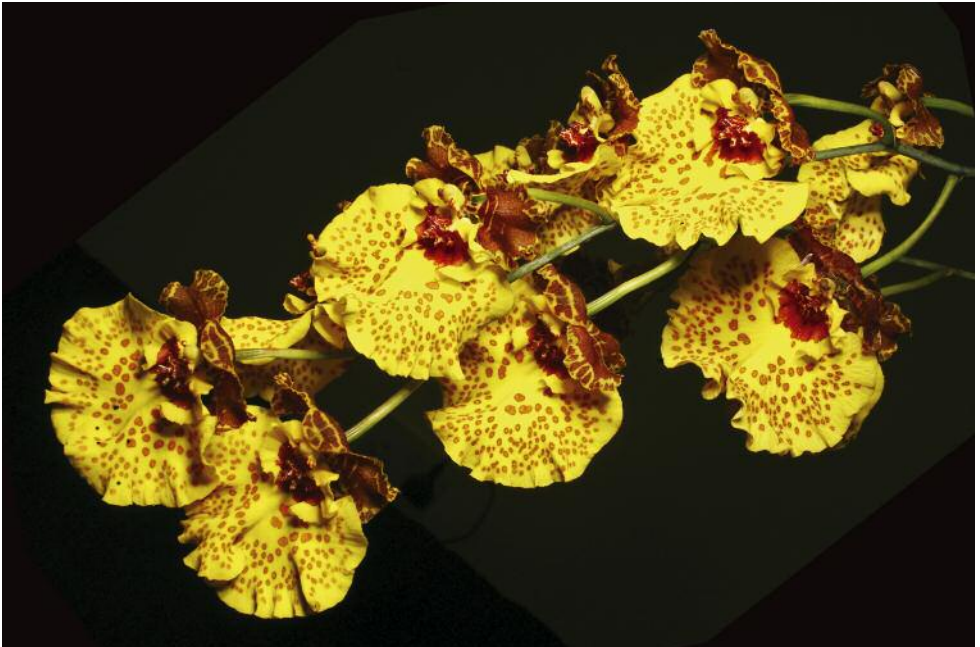
Oncidesa Kulnura Delight 'Total Impact'
(*Oncidesa* Kulnura Gold x *Gomesa* Dark Sun)
raised, registered and exhibited by S Barrie, Barrita Orchids, Australia



Gomiltidium Kulnura Calypso 'Sarah' AM/RHS



Oncidesa Kulnura Triumph 'Barrita Fuss' AM/RHS



Oncidesa Kulnura Delight 'Total Impact' PC/RHS



Anguloa uniflora 'St Thomas' CCC/RHS



Harold Koopowitz receives the Westonbirt Medal from Jim Gardiner

Certificate of Cultural Commendation

David McLaughlin, RHS Garden Wisley for *Anguloa uniflora* 'St Thomas', a species from Peru

RHS Westonbirt Medal

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Devon Orchid Society

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Advertising Announcement

Notice To Advertisers

Advertisements are welcomed. Full page
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Fliers, size A5 or A4 folded, for insertion
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Adverts must be prepaid. Discounts
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Deadlines: **December 10th, March 10th,
June 10th, September 10th .**

For all requests and artwork specifications
please contact Kim Solomon.

Tel: **0208 9464410**,
email: akmsolomon@yahoo.co.uk

Society goods available for purchase

Goods are available from the Secretary,
Val Micklewright, at meetings or by post.

Badge: £4.00 each, p&p £1.25

Polo shirts in royal blue, red or navy with logo.
Unisex sizes, S, M, L and XL: £10.00, p&p £4.50

Sweatshirt in light grey or navy with Society logo.
Sizes as above: £15.00 each, p&p £4.50

Fleece in navy with Society logo.
Sizes as above: £18.00, p&p £6.50

Binder for the *Journal* in red matt vinyl with
O.S.G.B. Journal in gold, holds 12 copies:
£5.00 each, p&p £3.50

Back copies of the *Journal* are available from the
Membership Secretary: £5.00 per volume
(four *Journals*), p&p £5.65 (or collect pre-ordered
Journals from monthly meetings)

Services to members

The *Journal*

Published quarterly

Meetings

Meetings are held on the first Saturday of most months at Napier Hall, 1 Hide Place (off Vincent Street), Westminster, London, SW1P 4NJ. Doors open at 13:30, guest speaker's lecture at 14:30–15:30 followed by refreshments, a raffle draw and a talk on the table show plants.

A competitive table show takes place at all meetings, except at the plant auction. Plants for judging must be in place by 14:00. Non-competitive plants are always welcome.

Parking is currently free on Saturdays on single yellow lines (do not park with wheels on the pavement/kerb or alongside dropped kerbs) and in Pay & Display bays, but DO NOT PARK in Residents' Parking bays.

Meetings at which members may bring plants to sell (with 10% to the Society, please) are marked with an asterisk (*) in the meetings diary on the Services to members page of the *Journal*, or online at www.osgb.org.uk

2014

- | | | |
|--------|-------|--|
| 2 Aug | 09:30 | Beginners' seminar – new members only, book in advance |
| | 13:30 | Doors open |
| | 14:30 | Malcolm Perry – Coelogynes |
| 6 Sep* | 13:30 | Doors open |
| | 14:30 | Saul Walker – Tropical terrestrials |
| 4 Oct* | 13:30 | Doors open |
| | 14:30 | Johan Hermans – Recent travels around the orchid world |
| 1 Nov | 10:30 | OSGB Autumn Show in conjunction with Wraybury Orchid Event |
| 6 Dec* | 12:30 | Christmas lunch, places must be booked in advance |

2015

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|--------|-------|--|
| 3 Jan* | 13:30 | Doors open |
| | 14:30 | Auction by Henry Oakeley
Members may bring four plants each to be auctioned or six plants per family membership |

Cultural Advice

Members are encouraged to bring problem plants to monthly meetings if they would like cultural advice and guidance. Cultural advice is also available by post from Val Micklewright, 103 North Road, Three Bridges, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 1SQ (please enclose an SAE for reply) or e-mail: val@micklewright.com

Website www.osgb.org.uk

The website has been designed by Marcel Kral of Smallfish Designs. The Society's website manager, Sam Hurley, will be pleased to receive material for the website, e-mail: sam@ballyhurley.com

Library

Books are available by post from the Librarian, Sam Hurley, or can be collected at the monthly meetings, or from OSGB shows if requested in advance. They may be borrowed for up to four weeks. The borrower is asked to pay the outward and return postage. A full list of books may be found on our website or obtained from the Librarian, e-mail: sam@ballyhurley.com

Displays

Members are invited to bring their plants to contribute to official displays by the Society at those shows **shown in bold in the Show Diary**, but please liaise beforehand with Displays Manager, Jeanette Beaney, e-mail: jeanette.beaney@btinternet.com

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Opinions expressed in the *Journal* are those of the authors and they, together with services and products offered by advertisers, are not necessarily endorsed by the Society.

The *Journal* is produced quarterly and is available to members by subscription only. The annual subscription is £16.00 with £4.00 extra for each additional family member at the same address. There is an overseas members' postage supplement of £5.00 for Europe and Russia, and £6.00 for the rest of the world. Young person membership (under 21), UK only, is £12.00. Back copies of the *Journal* are available (four issues per year): £5.00 + p&p UK £5.65, Europe £7.00, overseas £11.00.

All subscriptions are due on 1 January unless new members have a special arrangement to cover 18 months.

Membership application forms, standing order forms, Gift Aid forms and back issues of the *Journal* may be obtained from the Membership Secretary, e-mail: osgbmembership@yahoo.co.uk

OSGB Show Diary

including Affiliated Societies and International Shows

2014

September

6–7 Orchid Study Group 7th Orchid Festival, National Botanic Garden of Wales, Carmarthenshire SA32 8HG, Saturday 10:00–18:00 and Sunday 10:00–16:00
Contact: Lynne Harrendence, tel: 01269 269847, e-mail: lynne.harrendence@resqnet.co.uk

7 Durham Orchid Show, Josephine Butler College, Durham University, Durham, 10:30–16:00
Contact: Chris Barker, tel: 01642 654748, e-mail: chjandjb@ntlworld.com

10–14 21st World Orchid Conference, Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa
Website: www.woc21.org

27 Bournemouth OS Autumn Show, Allendale Community Centre, Hanham Road, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 1AS, admission £3.00, 12:00–16:30
Contact: Chris Broomfield, tel: 07712 479056, e-mail: chrisbroomfield@ntlworld.com, website: www.erythos.com/BOS/

October

12 Croydon & District OG Open Autumn Show, Diamond Riding Centre, Woodmansterne Road, Carshalton, Surrey, SM5 4DT, 11.00–16.00
Contact: Derek Belcher, tel: 020 8715 3635

12 Orchid Society of East Anglia Autumn Show, Eaton Parish Hall, Colman Road, Norwich, NR4 7AW, admission £2, 10:00–16:00
Contact: Jack Butcher, tel: 01603 466535, e-mail: joan324butcher@btinternet.com

17–19 Devon OS Orchid Weekend, Langstone Cliff Hotel, Dawlish Warren, Devon, EX7 0NA
Contact: Sue Lane, tel: 01884 32430, e-mail: sue@laneroger1.orangehome.co.uk or Nicola Wakley, tel: 01404 850354, e-mail: nwakley@googlemail.com, website: www.devon.ukos.com

26 South East OS Autumn Open Show, Ashford Rail Staff Hall, Beaver Road, Ashford, Kent, TN23 7RR, 13:00–16:00
Contact: Karina Sellers, tel: 01233 720238, e-mail: karinasellers@btinternet.com, website: www.seos.care4free.net/

November

1 OSGB Open Autumn Show, Wraysbury Village Hall, The Green, Wraysbury, Staines, TW19 5NA in conjunction with the Wraysbury Orchid Event, 10:30–16:30
Contact: Francis Quesada-Pallarés, tel: 07951 070637, e-mail: ols_francisquesadapallares@hotmail.com

2015

February

14 North Bucks OS Annual Show, Flitwick Village Hall, Flitwick, Bedfordshire MK45 1HP, 11:00–16:00
Contact: Bill Dickins, tel: 01933 355406

March

29 South East OS Spring Open Show, Ashford Rail Staff Hall, Beaver Road, Ashford, Kent, TN23 7RR, 13:00–16:00
Contact: Karina Sellers, tel: 01233 720238, e-mail: karinasellers@btinternet.com, website: www.seos.care4free.net/

April

4 Solihull & District OS 50th Anniversary Show, Arden School, Station Road, Knowle, B93 0PT, 11:00–16:00, admission £2.00
Contact: Martin Ball, tel: 01564 822897, e-mail: ballm1@icloud.com, website: www.solihullorchidsociety.org

5 West Cornwall OS Spring Show, Camborne Community Centre, South Terrace, Camborne, Cornwall, TR14 8SU, 11:00–16:00
Contact: Kit Lindsay, tel: 01209 717947, e-mail: r.lindsay672@btinternet.com

8–12 17th European Orchid Show and Conference London 2015, RHS Halls and RBG Kew, website: www.eoclondon2015.org.uk

May

19–23 RHS Chelsea Flower Show, website: www.rhs.org.uk

Further diary dates can be found via the OSGB website: www.osgb.org.uk and the British Orchid Council website: www.british-orchid-council.info/

