

**AUGUST 2021
BULLETIN
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The **NORTH
SHORE**



**ORCHID
BULLETIN**

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Next meeting is on Wednesday 4th August commencing at 8pm, at the Forestville Memorial Hall, 3 Starkey St, Forestville. Members may enter and bench plants from 7.00pm. Members must sign in either using the QR Code at the hall or by filling in the appropriate record at the front door, but please bring your plants.

Cultural your plants
Guest a slide show on '50 Shades of Yellow', a presentation on growing oncidiums.

Tea Roster As in previous months we will be asking for 2 volunteers at the start of the meeting to help with the serving of tea and coffee. Members are asked not to bring cakes at present as we will just be using our individual packets of biscuits, but help is needed to serve the drinks.

**Meetings cancelled until
further notice**

Valerie Houley



Vale Val Houley 1932 – 2021

This month the North Shore Orchid Society and many other societies in Sydney, lost a wonderful friend and supporter. Val was a member of many societies and a friend and mother figure to many of their members. Val has served on the committee of North Shore as well as the St Ives Orchid Fair and many members will remember her, always at the front door of the St Ives Fair, helping to organise the members in their various supporting roles. We have not seen much of Val at evening meetings over the last couple of years due to her age and health problems. Our condolences are sent to her son Bruce and his wife and all the family. She will be sorely missed.

Prizes from the Winter Show at St Ives Shopping Village

Due to the cancellation of our July meeting, the prize winners from the June show will receive their prize cards, sashes and prize money at our next meeting. Members who sold plants will also receive their money at this meeting unless you want to receive it by electronic transfer. If you want to get it this way please email the Treasurer with your name, BSB No. and your account No and he will transfer the money into your account.

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Dendrobium cuthbertsonii

by Craig Scott-Harden



Den. cuthbertsonii
Owned by Seong Tay

Dendrobium cuthbertsonii is a cool growing species from Papua New Guinea. This diminutive gem of the orchid world is, I think responsible for more excitement and yet more disappointment than just about any other species. Tiny plants no more than about 8cm tall, with proportionately enormous blooms bulging over the sides of the warty coriaceous leaves. The plants are a deep dull green colour and are totally upstaged by the stunning vibrant colours of the flowers, ranging from the most common red to orange, purple, pink, whites and yellows. And even bicolour types using combinations of these colours, all this in a plant that can be grown in a 5cm pot. They range in elevation from about 1000 metres to 3700metres and live in a variety of habitats. Starting from the lower elevations they tend to be terrestrial, They can be found on the edges of road cuttings growing on the embankments in full sun with their roots burrowing into the clay to a depth of about 8cm, here they predominate, the

verges being devoid of any other vegetation. As you head up to higher elevations the habitat dramatically changes, travelling only a few hundred metres you start to come across thick moss covering the ground with grasses, shrubs and bushes, here still you will find an abundance of our species growing in full sun to much shadier habitats. Heading up to the peak of their range at 3700 metres the environment changes completely again; one place at this elevation, the well known Tari Gap, is covered in a dense impenetrable moss forest and marshlands. Beech trees, ginger plants, massive tree ferns and pandanus stands all covered in moss and grasses. Giving the impression that something from the Jurassic period may be lurking just out of sight in the ever present cloud layer. The drab look of this place is emphasized by the Brown Grey hues of the moisture laden plants & lichens. On the verges of these forests our plants can be found growing everywhere from the forest floor to the top of the canopy about 30 metres, splashes of iridescent red betraying their very existence, standing out like a laser light on a dark wall. The plants attach themselves to the moss by entangling their roots to the outer layers of this thick moist cushion that covers the trunks and branches of these forest plants. They never get above about 25c, and bottom out at 5c, and like to have plenty of moisture at their roots without remaining waterlogged. Most people who have success with this orchid grow in sphagnum moss or occasionally mounted on tree fern. In the 130 odd years since this species has been known in cultivation, I have no doubt no other orchid has caused more angst or more pleasure to the orchid fraternity. This one is not for the faint hearted.

Selection of *Den.cuthbertsonii* photographed in a glasshouse in San Fransisco



Pretty orchids that are in our collection.....L & G Bromley



Rlc. Burdekin Heights 'Rosella'



Cym. Strathdon 'Corksbridge Fantasy'



Cattleya Mishima Flare 'Royal'



Van. Seng x V. testacea



Rhynchosopsis Leong Pak-Lin



Phal. Little Mary 'Cherry Blossom'

DATES TO PUT IN OR REMOVE FROM YOUR DIARY

Shows cancelled due to the current Covid-19 outbreak

National Orchid Extravaganza and Paphiopedilum Show at Yagoona 6th – 8th August

The Mingara Fair & Show at the Mingara Recreational Club 20th – 22nd August

Southern Orchid Spectacular, at Sutherland 24th -26th September

Still on at the time of the going to the printers **NOW CANCELLED**

North Shore's Winter Show at the Gordon Shopping Centre, 19th – 21st August. Set-up on

Wednesday so you need to respond to the display

classes in the

1. a show so

2. a plant list

3. a seller's

NSOS's Winter Show has been cancelled due to Covid-19

only need the price and your name on the yellow tag attached to the plant.

North Shore's Spring Show at the St Ives Shopping Village will set-up on Wednesday evening 8th

September with the pull-down on Saturday afternoon 11th September.

More details on these shows closer to the time, although now is the time to start preparing your plants for either the display or for the sales table.

Members' flowers that should have been benched last month



Masd. Bay of Fires 'Crown Vista' Owner Susie Butler



Masd. veitchii 'Gigi' Owner Susie Butler



Masd. Henrica Jansen Owner Susie Butler



Masd. Rein Sun 'Merlot' Owner Susie Butler



Cym. Sarah Jean 'Ice Cascade'
Owner Elizabeth Blackwell



Paph. British Concorde 'Supreme'
Owner Rod Nurthen



Den. Gowan's Tangelo
Owner Ela Kielich



Mps. Kardinya Lady 'Magic'
Owner Rod Nurthen



Dinema polybulbon
Owner Ela Kielich



Mps. Sachet White
Owner Ian & Irene Chalmers



Maxillaria sp. Owner Ian & Irene Chalmers



Den. Topaz Dream x Dal's Rager Owner Ela Kielich



Isabellia pulchella
Owned by Susie Butler



Onc. Twinkle 'Fragrant Fantasy'
Owned by Anthony Mobbs



Onc. Joost
Owned by Paul & Loretta Au



Cym. Street Hawk 'Mini World'
Owned by Paul & Loretta Au



Den. glomeratum
Owned by Ela Kielich



Rlc. Sylvia Fry 'Supreme'
Owned by Gloria & Allan Cushway



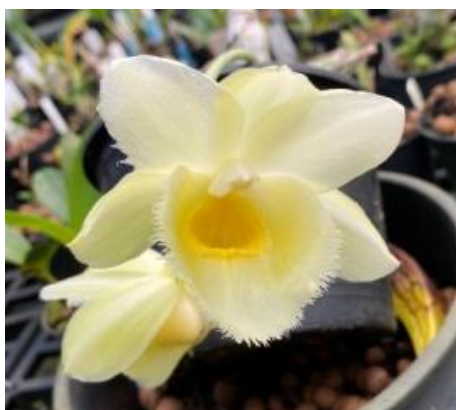
Cuitlauzina pulchella

Garrie Bromley

This is a cool growing species from Mexico and the Costa Rica areas between North and South America. It is free flowering and the clear white flowers are on stems held nicely above the foliage. They grow happily in bush-houses in Sydney needing no special attention. They are in the Oncidiinae family and until recently were called Osmoglossum. They seem to grow happily in most potting mixes. Ours grow in a peat and perlite mix and are fertilized regularly with a weak mix along with all the other orchids in the bush-house. This is an excellent orchid for novice growers.



C. Horace 'Maxima'
Owned bby Gloria & Allan Cushway



Catasetum Brown' Delight
Owned by I & I Chalmers

A special thank you to the members who sent photos of their orchids for this bulletin. The response was so good not all photos are in this copy some will be in next month's issue.

Lesley



Bulb. fritillariflorum
Owned by I & I Chalmers

A collection of flowering orchids from Phil Spence



Den. Phil's Candy



Den. trichostomum



Den. Foundry Salad Bowl



Den. bullenianum



Den. oregonum



Den. rindjaniense



Den. subclausum



Den. spenceanum



Den. aphanochilum



Den. erosum