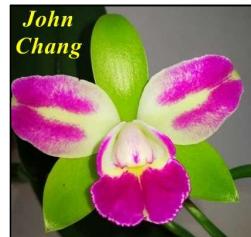


**Rhyncholaeliocattleya Village Chief North 'Green Genius'** – beautifully grown by Jessie Koh.

This cross between *Cattleya* Village Chief Cuba x *Rlc.* Mem. Helen Brown, was registered by Chih-Cheng Chen in 2007.

With its distribution of vibrant, contrasting colours this beauty is a real eye-catcher. The first time I ever saw this orchid was in a photo **John Chang** submitted in the very first virtual benching issue & shown again on the right. I had never seen the colour combination before & it just really grabbed my attention. It immediately went on my wish list!



This little charmer is the result of at least 8 generations of breeding involving crosses and backcrosses and 14 different species from the *Cattleya* family. If this colour combination was the aim, they certainly had to work hard to get it over more than 100 years. All the species ancestor photos shown below are from the [bluenanta](#) site. The percentage representation is also listed. An impressive collection of very showy species in their own right consisting of 97.66% *Cattleya*.

There are 53 species of *Cattleya* spread throughout tropical South America. Renowned for their large, extravagant, often fragrant flowers. There are some great growing tips for the *Cattleya* alliance orchids including *Cattleya*, *Laelia*, *Sophronitis* & their hybrids written by Jim Brydie on our KOS website. They are certainly worth trying & as you can see from the spectacular examples throughout this and previous virtual benching issues, there is no shortage of expert growers in our own club to give you all the guidance you need.



*C. dowiana* 27.72,



*C. intermedia* 25.0,



*C. granulosa* 12.5,



*C. tenebrosa* 7.8,



*C. mossiae* 6.25,



*C. purpurata* 4.69,



*C. warscewiczii* 3.9



*C. bicolor* 3.12,



*Rl. digbyana* 2.34,



*C. mendelii* 1.56,



*C. gaskelliana* 1.56,



*C. wallisii* 1.56,



*C. xanthina* 1.17,



*C. cinnabarinna* 0.78

**Miltoniopsis Lillian Nakamoto 'Tanto'** a simply stunning orchid grown to perfection by Lina Huang.

*Miltoniopsis* are commonly known as the “Pansy Orchid” for obvious reasons. There are 5 to 6 species found in Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela and Peru. *Miltoniopsis* can be differentiated from *Miltonia* as *Mps.* pseudobulbs produce a single leaf. Lillian Nakamoto is a cross between *Mps.* Lorene x Lynne Waihee & according to [orchids.com](#) the cultivar ‘Tanto’ is considered one of the best white *Miltoniopsis*.

A possible tetraploid, Tanto is a vigorous grower. A tetraploid is often denoted with 4N on the tag which means it has double the normal number of chromosomes than a standard plant of that species or hybrid – relevant for breeding purposes.

Tanto has pseudobulbs that produce several inflorescences with up to 8 striking, almost 10cm white flowers with a distinctly contrasting centre of rich dark plum with a spot of colour on the lateral sepals & a gentle blush of colour on the petals, simplistic elegance! The fragrance is described as powdery rose.

**IOSPE**

Continuing the wonderful collection of blooms from [Lina Huang](#)



*Cattleya* Dendi's Double – beautifully grown by [Lina](#).

(*C. Penny Kuroda* (Caudebec Gp) (syn *C. Penny Kuroda* (Caudebec))  $\times$  *C. Batemaniana*).

**Species ancestors:** *C. intermedia* 31.5%, *C. coccinea* 25%, *C. guttata* 25%, *C. loddigesii* 12.51%, *C. mossiae* 5.46%, *C. warneri* 0.78%

Three of the six species ancestors have speckling. I am no genetics expert so based purely on appearance, the most prominent spotting seems to come from *C. guttata* making this hybrid a real head turner with its distinctive patterning & vibrant colours. Talk about pretty in pink!



*Odontonia* Pacific Paranoia  
'Other Side of Cool'



*Laelia* gouldiana



*Miltonia* Hybrid



*Oncidium* flexuosum



*Bc.* Island Charm 'Blumen Insel'  
What a pastel delight!



*Burragera* Brazilian Sun



*Vanda Soroa Cherry Bomb (Dr Anek x Madame Rattana)* – Jessie Koh



*Barkeria scandens*  
Syn. *Barkeria cyclotella* – Jessie Koh



*Miltonia spectabilis*  
Jessie Koh



← *Dendrobium Cassiope*  
Jessie Koh. A primary hybrid (*Den. moniliforme* x *nobile*). What a gorgeous specimen plant!



→ *Epidactylanthus Volcano Trick 'Orange Fire'*  
Lina Huang



← *Catasetum*  
Marge Soule  
Jessie Koh



→ *Vanda hybrid?*  
Jessie Koh



Welcoming Ann Dimond to her first VB with these two delightful blooms



← *Cattleya Unknown*  
Ann says she has had this plant for a very long time. The plant has faded a number of times over the years but it looks like Ann has definitely found it's happy place now!

→ *Den. Anne's Rainbow Surprise*. Ann has this hanging from a tree & says it's easy to grow, the leaves occasionally cop a bit of sunburn & apparently her naughty chickens have caused a bit of leaf damage too!



Amazing blooms from the home of **T&P**. The photos on this page also provide a little insight into the impressive growing set up - you can understand why **T&P** consistently grow such superb plants.



*Howeara Lava Burst 'Puanani' (Hwra. Mini-Primi x Rdza. secunda)* Clearly it's been a very good year for this magnificent specimen. *Howeara* is an intergeneric hybrid between the three genera *Leochilus*, *Oncidium* & *Rodriguezia*. This stunner has 35 racemes and over 350 flowers, it creates quite the impression – gorgeous!



*Catasetum pileatum* 'Pierr Couret' x *pileatum* album



*Dendrochilum magnum*



←  
*Den. Mousmee*

→  
*Blc. Mem.*  
Henry Rudolph  
'Miyas Visit'





←  
Blc. Williette  
Wong  
'Best Clone'  
The whorl of  
colour on the  
lip is  
beautiful



→  
Rlc. Saigon  
Sunrise



Laeliocattleya Angelheart 'Showgirl'



Cattleya Chocolate Drop



Sophrocattleya Dal's Choice (= Horace x Lana Coryell)



Laeliocattleya Love Fantasy 'H&R'



Aerangis appendiculata



Oncidium barbatum



Oncidium onusta



Zygo. Artur Elle 'Dark' – T&P



Ddc. magnum - Lisa Harris



Milt. spetabilis Var. moreliana – T&P

*Zelenkoa onusta* (syn. *Oncidium onustum*) - John Chang – elegant presentation as always. The genus *Zelenkoa* was introduced in 2001 by MW Chase, NH Williams *et.al.* The genus is named after Harry Zelenko a painter, illustrator, designer, writer, photographer & self-professed ‘orchid nut’. The genus contains only one known species *Zelenkoa onusta*.



Native to Panama, Colombia, Ecuador & Peru from regions having long dry winters, growing at elevations of 25 to 1200 meters. In nature it is often found growing on cacti. It is a miniature sized hot to cool growing epiphyte with



small 2.5cm ovoid, longitudinally ribbed pseudobulbs. The 2cm flowers are pure yellow. After blooming they require a definite rest period with no water or fertilizer until new growth appears, mimicking climatic conditions in their natural habitat. [AOS](#) [IOSPE](#)



Jessie Koh



Gomesa Crispa – Lina Huang



Coelogyne speciosa – Jenny Richardson



Coelogyne pallens – Jenny Richardson



← *Miltassia*  
Aztec  
Jenny  
Richardson  
(ex. Chris  
Wilson)

→  
*Milt. Belle*  
Glade x *Milt.*  
Reynella  
Jenny  
Richardson



*Paph. charlesworthii*  
Lee Payne



*Oncidium Twinkle 'Fragrant Fantasy'*  
Lisa Harris



*Paph charlesworthii*  
G&A Cushway



A breathtaking display from **Gloria & Allan Cushway** – what a glorious sight on the deck

**Back row** *C. Porcia 'Cannizaro'* **Next row** *Blc. Brunswick Gem* *Coral* **Next row middle** *Bc. Donna Kimura* *Paradise* *Tami* **On right** *Lc. Angel Heart Sumi* **Next row** 3x *Rsc. Adelaide Queen*, white is *Blc. Burdekin Heights*, dark red is *Lc. Pirate King* *Port Wine* **Last row** 2x *Blc. California Girl 'Orchidlibrary'* & white with red throat *Lc. Persepolis Splender*

A couple of amazing specimen plants from two of our expert growers

*Epidendrum peperomia* – grown into a beautiful specimen by **T&P**. This dwarf/miniature, reed-stem epiphytic



species originates from Colombia & Venezuela growing in pine & oak forests at altitudes of 600 – 2700 meters. Also found from Southern Mexico to Panama at varying elevations & extending to Peru where they can be found at 3000m, with those found at higher elevations growing as terrestrials.

Due to the extended distribution & large range in elevation, these plants adapt to a wide variety of growing conditions ranging from warm to cold. Plants should not be exposed to direct midday sun & benefit from good air circulation at all times.

Humidity should be maintained at 85-90% but can be dropped to 64-70% for a couple of months during the dry winter. In their natural habitat rainfall is low for a couple of months in winter but there is still moisture available from heavy dew & late-night mists.

As the plant matures it can form large mats producing a single 2.5cm flower on a terminal inflorescence. [OrchidWiz](#) says in a well-grown plant many growths will flower simultaneously – as can be seen in **T&P**'s plant. This species has no pseudobulbs, instead it produces alternate, succulent, fleshy leaves from its 8cm long cane-like stem. Leaves can become infused with purple if given bright light. [IOSPE OrchidWiz](#)

*Dendrobium toressae* – [Peter & Jane D'Olier](#). What a superb little orb of orchid this is! Commonly referred to as The Sparkle Orchid or The Mica Orchid. This little cutie is native to tropical Northern Queensland as a hot to cool growing miniature epiphyte or lithophyte at elevations of 50 to 1220 meters. Often found in exposed areas on trees or rocks.

It has rhizomes with the remnants of a small basal & now inactive pseudobulb. The highly branched stems are covered in tightly packed, succulent, alternate leaves 6-8mm long. Each leaf is only 3-4mm wide and glistens in the light. They can also develop a red hue if grown in high light conditions. As the plant matures it forms a dense mat that can completely cover their mounts as can be seen in [Peter & Jane](#)'s impressive specimen. What a sight it must be to see that in nature.

Single flowers ~6mm long bloom on a very short inflorescence. Flowers can vary from cream coloured to pale pink & occur sporadically throughout the year. [ISOPE Wikipedia](#)



What a resplendent explosion of colour from these magnificently grown blooms of Peter & Jane D'Olier and as always, fantastic photography



→  
*Phalaenopsis*  
Unknown



I am going to miss the stunning photos as well as the wonderful orchids from **Jane & Peter D'Olier**, more beauties!



*Warczewiczella marginata*  
but some query this



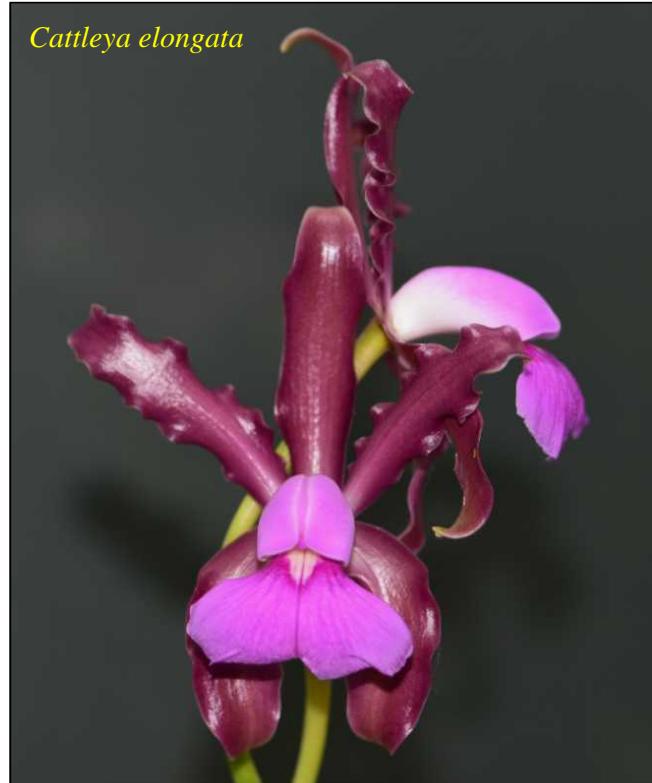
*Rlc. California Girl 'Orchidlibrary'*



*Phal. amboinensis* var. *flava*



*Paphiopedilum micranthum*



*Cattleya elongata*



*Cattleya fournieri*



*Oncidium sotoanum* \*FS to 2cm



*Eria javanica*

\*FS = Flower size based on IOSPE



*Dendrobium t桐ii* – Peter & Jane D’Olier



*Dendrobium klabatense* – Peter & Jane D’Olier



← *Sophronitis brevipedunculata*  
Peter & Jane D’Olier  
What a vibrant colour - but aren’t you glad you don’t have to say the name out loud



→ *Ceratostylis rubra*  
Peter & Jane D’Olier



← *Coelogyne usitana*  
Peter & Jane D’Olier  
→ *Renanthera philippinensis*  
Peter & Jane D’Olier



*Zygopetalum* Unknown - Jenny Richardson



*Vanda coerulea* ‘Dr Grove’ - Lisa Harris unusual bud shape



Welcoming Trish Peterson to her first VB with a selection of delightful blooms



*Bulb. Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry'*  
Trish Peterson



*Bulbophyllum rothschildianum*  
Trish Peterson



*Bulbophyllum fascinator?*  
Trish Peterson



*Gastrochilus obliquus* - Trish Peterson



*Maxillaria variabilis* x2 - Trish Peterson \*FS 1 to 1.5cm



↑ A cautionary note from Jay Pfahl on IOSPE “This orchid for most of the last 200 years has been known as *Oncidium ornithorhynchum* which with recent studies has been found to describe a yellow flowered species from Andean South America known commonly as *Oncidium pyramidale*. A new name was needed for the pink, highly fragrant flowers that occur in Central America hence this new name *Oncidium sotoanum*”. \*FS to 2cm



*Onc. sotoanum* - Lisa Harris

*Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'*  
Lee Payne



*Angraecum eburneum*  
(or *Angcm. longicalcar*?) - Lee Payne



*Coelogyne ovalis x2*  
Lee Payne

*Cym. Devon Elf 4N*  
'April Orange' - Lisa Harris

*Liparis swenssonii*  
Trish Peterson \*FS 1cm



*Onc. sotoanum - DL*

*Miltonia moreliana - DL*

*Ctt. Little Susie 'Joy' - DL*



*Stenoglottis longifolia x2 - DL*

*Paphiopedilum purpuratum - DL*



*Miltonia Ann Warne - DL*

*Miltonia clowesii - DL*

*Dendrochilum magnum - DL*



*Dendrochilum wenzelii - DL \*FS 1cm*

*Coelogyne fimbriata - DL*

*Stanhopea wardii - DL*



*Ctt. Chocolate Drop 'Kodama'*  
Lisa Harris



*Sophrolaeliocattleya Yellow Bird*  
Jenny Richardson



*Wilsonara Pacific Perspective 'Pacific Heat'* - Lisa Harris



*Zygotepetalum Artur Elle 'Essendon' x Kiwi Choice 'Eileen' x2* - Jenny Richardson

*Ornithophora radicans* (Syn. *Gomesa radicans*, *Sigmatostalix radicans*) – Lee Payne. Found in Espirito Santo, Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Parana, Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul states of Brazil near the coast at elevations around 400 meters.

A miniature, warm to hot growing epiphyte. The entire plant only reaches about 23cm tall & produces a slender 18cm inflorescence with several 0.5cm to 1cm flowers.

With a clump type growth habit & it's grassy like leaves it produces an impressive specimen orchid when grown well as Lee has done.

The photo to the right is taken from [Orchidsforum](#) & shows a close up of the flower – looking like a tiny little bird with its head bowed & wings outstretched. The flowers last 4 – 6 weeks and



reportedly have a sweet honey fragrance. It has the potential to bloom twice a year in summer & autumn – bonus! [IOSPE](#)

*Orpha. radicans* Orchidsforum





*Cattleya Aloha Case Ching Hua*  
Lee Payne



*Cattleya jenmanii var. coerullea*  
Lee Payne



*Cattleya perinnii*  
Lee Payne



*Dendrobium Enobi Purple 'Splash' - T & P*



*Cym. Enzan Shining 'Royal Flame'* - Jenny Richardson



*Ctt. Ploenpit Fantasy x Golden Pin*  
Lee Payne



*Miltonia Tropical Heatwave*  
Jenny Richardson



*Blc. Erin Kobayashi 'Lahaina Gold'*  
Lee Payne



←  
*Bulbophyllum*  
Unknown  
Lee Payne



→  
*Ctt. Blue Boy*  
'Gainsborough'  
Lee Payne



*Doritaenopsis Queen Beer 'Red Sky'* - Lisa Harris



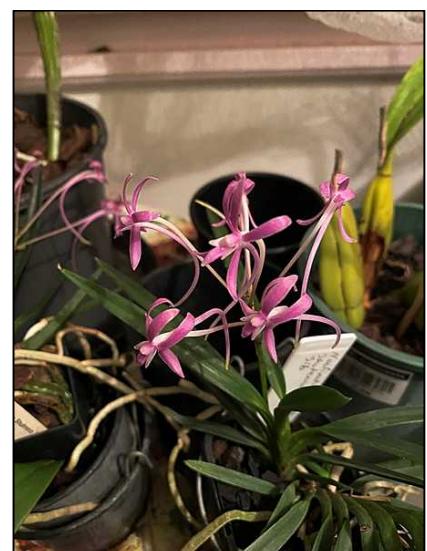
*Cattleya Porcia 'Cannizaro'* - Lisa Harris



*Cattleya Portiata* - Lisa Harris



*Holc. kimballianum* – Lisa Harris



*Neofinetia falcata* - Lee Payne



*Stanhopea wardii* – or hybrid? – Jenny Richardson



← Rth. →

Chunfong  
Smile  
'Cluster'  
Jenny  
Richardson

Showing that  
even a cultivar  
name does not  
always  
guarantee an  
exact flower  
match.



Hi everyone - our meetings have restarted & although we may be running reduced benching for a while we have decided to close the Virtual Benching with this issue. I hope it served its purpose of providing some connection during a most bizarre time.

With sincere thanks to everyone who sent in photos, one or many – especially the regular contributors, it's been a joy to open your emails & discover the treasures within. I appreciate your patience with my follow up emails checking names etc. & your kind understanding when I made mistakes that made it to the final copy. With extra special mention to Lina, Jessie and T&P who (if you ignore my omissions) contributed to every issue – your constant support was very much appreciated!

My heartfelt thanks to Jim for his expert review, guidance & encouragement throughout, his ever patient & informative responses to my many questions & his enlightening technical advice. I hate to think what it would have been like to do this every month the way I produced the first couple of issues!

Thanks to Garrie, Trevor, Jean & Geoff & Peter & Jane for their help with some of the identifications & plant doctor services.

Over the 13 issues, 149 pages were published including 1333 photos from 38 contributors. A few unlabelled or mislabelled plants were identified, virus was identified in three plants (not seen in VB). We had the opportunity to see a few plants that were either too big, don't flower for long enough to make it to a meeting & from members who don't routinely attend meetings.

I appreciated your lovely feedback throughout. I learnt a lot & had the pleasure of virtually meeting members who no longer attend meetings – my Covid silver lining. *Jenny* 🧣

My cute little baby dragon friend is a later instar of *Charaxes sempronius* - caterpillar of the tailed emperor butterfly