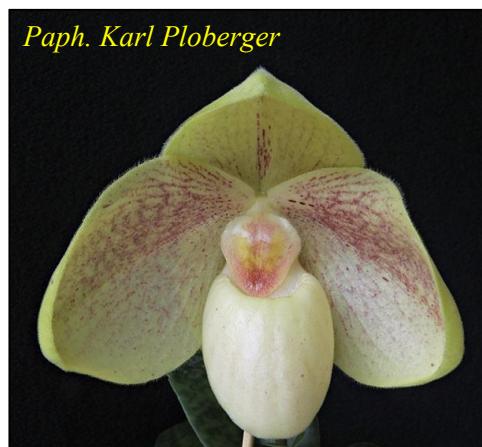




Staying connected during the COVID-19 pandemic

Starting this month with expertly grown, exquisite plants from the home of Geoff & Jean Fulcher

Paphiopedilum Berenice 'Beauty' This received an AM in 2014
with the same number of flowers - GF



Paph. Karl Ploberger Our first flowering of this seedling *Paph. bellatulum* x *hangianum*. It was registered in 2005, the same year we bought the plant from P&R Orchids. One has to be patient with Paphs! - GF



Just on these two species (dideri & elephantinum) they look very similar to me and there seems to be nothing definitive in what I've read so far to convince me that they are different species, except for the slightly different proportions of the labellum and I've not seen enough examples of them both to make a judgment - GF

Bulbophyllum barbigerum comes from New Guinea and *Bulb. tresschii* from Malaya (probably always wet). The Bulbo.



barbigerum
flowers are about 1cm across and the *Bulb. tresschii* flowers about 17cm long - GF

Bulb. barbigerum
The close up image to the left is from Plant Kingdom. I was intrigued when I saw this little gem from Geoff & Jean. According to IOSPE it's common name is the bearded Bulbophyllum & you can see why - what a fascinating flower! My interest was piqued further when I read this quote from Jay Pfahl "I've been told that in the 1700's this plant was put forward as a missing link between plant and animal, it moves, wiggles, jerks and bobs. Looks as if it could talk." The downside - apparently it doesn't smell very nice - i.e. foul smelling.

Check out the link below if you want to see it in action. No doubt the pollinator is attracted to this mesmerising movement - a real little dancer! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V7O_BH0-08I

Gorgeous colours with plants grown to perfection from T & P

Dendrobium Mousmee – what a beautiful display of this much sought after orchid. Considered a primary hybrid as it is a cross between two species *Den. amabile* (syn. *Den. bronckartii*) x *Den. thyrsiflorum*. The cross was originated & registered by Vacherot-Lecoule in 1941. There are over 10 awarded cultivars.

For further information on the wonderful orchids in *Dendrobium* Section Callista refer to Jim's article in the December 2020 bulletin.



The photo to the right is T & P's impressive specimen plant of *Capanemia uliginosa*. Comparing this with the photo in the Nov 2020



virtual benching I think this year it has even MORE blooms, magnificent! If you look closely at the bottom right corner of the mount you can see a bit of what looks like green netting or wire – I presume a clever way to help secure the orchid to the mount.



Potinara Free Spirit



Ascocentrum miniatum



Oncidium Kalihi



Trichocentrum (Trt.) pulvinatum

Hybridising – an opportunity to work with Mother Nature

What fun it must be to create something unique & beautiful by gently pushing the boundaries Mother Nature normally works within. To produce a hybrid you must always hope that, if you are lucky, you get to showcase the ‘best’ characteristics of its ancestors. Now when I say ‘best’ of course that is totally subjective. Mother Nature reigns supreme & whilst man made hybrids certainly exaggerate aspects we humans find appealing, there will always remain something truly special in seeing all the magnificent variations, adaptations & truly ingenious mechanisms of pollination that are occur in orchids in nature.

That said, if you manage to produce an impressive hybrid you then get the opportunity to name it, putting your personal stamp on your collaboration with Mother Nature for all time – how good is that! It’s interesting to look into the history of the names & whilst some don’t show a great deal of imagination, others give us a glimpse into the non-orchid passions of those assigning the names.

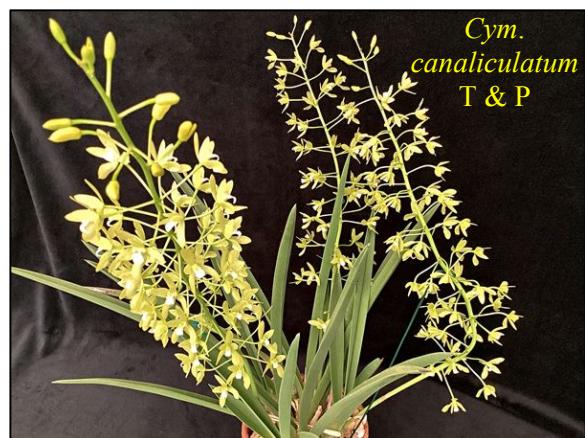
There is an obvious sporting theme coming through with the two lovely cymbidiums from **T&P** this month & I thought maybe an Aussie may have initiated it especially considering the Aussie natives in the ancestry. However, on investigation I found that the cricket theme started in 1964 in South California with the primary hybrid between the two species *Cym. devonianum x madidum* being registered by Greenoaks orchids which was run by Elmore & Emma Menninger, they registered this cross as *Cym. Cricket*. Not knowing the originators, it may not have started with sport in mind, it could have been the insect with reference to the size & colour – who knows.



In 2009 Ray Clement from Tinonee Orchids has taken it in the direction of a sporting theme & registered *Cym. Black Stump* (*Cym. Australian Midnight x Cricket*). This hybrid produced a number of highly awarded cultivars including ‘Come in Spinner’ with the beautiful specimen grown by **T&P** shown in the photo below. Other awarded cultivars include ‘63 not out’ obviously named in honour of our Aussie cricketer Phillip Hughes & ‘Howzat’.

The family tree showing the Aussie heritage with our native *madidum* & *canaliculatum*. *Cym. Cricket* (*devonianum x madidum*) *Cym. Australian Midnight* (*canaliculatum x atropurpureum*) originated by K Russell in 1991 *Cym. Black Stump* (*Australian Midnight x Cricket*).

Cym. canaliculatum – A warm to cool growing species from the Northern Territories & Western Australia, Queensland & NSW. With fragrant flowers ranging from 1.8 to 4cm they can grow in full sun & dry conditions. Found in forests of Sclerophyll in hollows of dead branches at elevations of 5 to 900 meters. Sclerophyll forests are a typically Australian vegetation type including eucalyptus, wattles and banksias, characterised by hard, short, leathery, often spiky leaves – features closely associated with low soil fertility. The typical low fertility makes these soils unfavourable for agriculture generally protecting these areas of native vegetation & subsequently the native orchids within, from such development. Another typical Aussie feature is that bushfires play a vital role in the regeneration of dry sclerophyll forests. Many species have the ability to resprout from buds protected beneath the soil or within the trunk or branches. I’m sure we’ve all seen this characteristic new growth pattern helping to regenerate our native bushlands that appears after a bushfire. Other species have seeds that are protected from fire by a hard seed-coat or woody fruit which are stimulated to open or germinate by fire.



Cymbidium madidum Found in Qld & NSW. A hot to cool growing epiphyte that behaves like a terrestrial, is found in hollows & crooks of branches where lots of detritus has collected, it rarely grows on bark. Preferring shady conditions, in or near rainforests from sea level to 1300 meters. The fragrant flowers range from 2.6 to 2.8cm.

Cym. devonianum Found in Assam India, eastern Himalayas, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam at altitudes of 1000 to 2000 meters in exposed locations on trees or mossy rocks in highland montane cloud forests. A cool growing epiphyte or lithophyte producing non-fragrant flowers of 2.5 to 3.75cm.

Cym. atropurpureum Found in southern Thailand, Central Malaysia, Vietnam, Borneo, Sumatra and the Philippines in lowland and lower montane forests from sea level to 1630 meters. A hot to cool growing terrestrial or lithophyte on vertical rock faces producing 3.5 to 4.5cm flowers that apparently smell like rancid coconut oil – one can hope that is not a dominant characteristic.

IOSPE www.environment.nsw.gov.au

terrestrial or lithophyte on vertical rock faces producing 3.5 to 4.5cm flowers that apparently smell like rancid coconut oil – one can hope that is not a dominant characteristic.





← *Maxillaria paranaensis* – T & P.

Found in Rio de Janeiro, Minas Gerais, São Paulo & the Paraná States of Brazil at elevations up to 1400 meters as a warm to cool growing epiphyte. The short inflorescence produces a single 2.5cm flower. IOSPE

Eria hyacinthoides – T & P ↓

Found in the Malaysian peninsula, Sumatra and Java at elevations of 500 to 1700 meters. Pseudobulbs produce up to 2 inflorescences which can be up to 25cm & carry many closely packed flowers. The arching inflorescences produce a pretty display but apparently the fragrance is not particularly nice so perhaps not one for the kitchen table. IOSPE



Trichocentrum (Trt.) stramineum T&P



Den. Mem. São Paula x Den. Felicity – T & P



Vasco. Pine Rivers 'Wasana' – T & P



←
Oncidium Rainer
T & P

→
Jumellea sagittata
Lee Payne



Stunning, vibrant orchids from the home of Peter & Jane D'Olier



Vasco. Alice's Anie



Vanda Pachara Delight 'Blue'



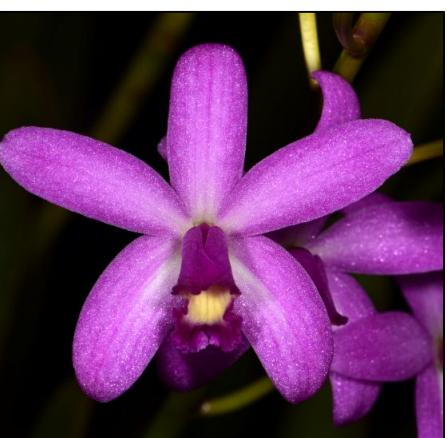
Ascda. Caroline 'Kathleen'



Laelia pfisteri



Cattleya rupestris x 2



Cattleya longipes



Sarco. ceciliae



Dendrobium calophyllum



◀ *Cattleya mendelii*

Wcz. *discolour* Found in Costa Rica, Cuba, Honduras, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador at elevations of 700 to 1850 m. Lacking pseudobulbs, they have short stems that can branch at the base producing a fan of softish leaves. The inflorescence is about 12.5cm long & produces a single, waxy, long lasting 7.5cm flower. The fragrance has various descriptions including candy, cedar, pepper and camphorous. IOSPE



More wonders grown with expert care by Peter & Jane D'Olier

Dryadella simula – found in Central & South America in particular in Columbia, Ecuador and Peru in humid, lower cloud forests as a cold growing epiphyte.

[IOSPE](#) refers to altitudes of 2000 to 3100 meters however, [OrchidWiz](#) lists elevations ranging from as low as 30m in Panama up to 3100m in some areas of Ecuador. [OrchidWiz](#) further references data from Pridgeon in 1992 who reported that *Dryadella simula* only occurs in South America & that the name had been applied to other species in Central America in error (possibly *Dryadella guatemalensis* which is sometimes listed as a synonym of *Dryadella simula*).

Dryadella are a genus of Pleurothallidinae that have ramicauls (stems) instead of pseudobulbs and creeping rhizomes that create a clump-forming growth habit.

The leaves are about 5-6cm long & the inflorescence is about half the length of the leaves

so the flowers appear in amongst the leaves. Each inflorescence carries 2-4 flowers which open successively. Flowers are 1.5cm and in bud, remind me somewhat of the golden egg from Harry Potter & the Goblet of Fire - the one Harry had to open underwater in order to hear the clue from the merfolk. [IOSPE](#) [OrchidWiz](#)

Coelogyne pandurata. Found in Malaysia, Sumatra, Borneo and on the Islands of Mindanao, Luzon & Samar in the Philippines. Usually growing on large, old tress beside rivers

near the coast or in hot, damp, swampy lowlands. The pseudobulbs are large 7.5-12.5cm, a flattened oval shape, often curved & are widely spaced on a creeping rhizome. Each pseudobulb has 2 leaves ~46cm long.



Check out the amazing plant & flowers in the photo to the right *in situ* in Sarawak, Borneo. [This photo taken from the IOSPE website, originally from the Netherlands National Herbarium website from André Schuiteman, Dr. E.F. de Vogel, and Jaap Vermeulen.](#)

The arched to pendant inflorescence ranges from 15-30cm in length with 5-15 flowers which open sequentially, with a fragrance described as like honey or cinnamon. The blooms range from 7.5-12.4cm across but only last for about a week. Flowers are a gorgeous green to greenish yellow with a gently wavy lip with dark brown/black markings forming a striking contrast. [OrchidWiz](#) [IOSPE](#)



← *Vanda cristata*.

These floral scented, waxy, long lasting 2.5 to 5cm flowers have 'horns' at the tip of the lip which is the distinguishing factor between this species and *V. alpina*. [IOSPE](#)



Maxillaria lineolata →

Syn. *Mormolyca lineolata*





Dendrobium tangerinum

What a gorgeous mix of rich colours & wonderful, convoluted shapes.

This orchid is from Den. section Spatulata which includes about 50 species distributed across Northern Australia, New Guinea, Pacific Islands, Indonesia & the Philippines requiring warm, tropical growing conditions.

They are characterised by the spiralling, twisted floral segments and are commonly known as 'antelope orchids'.

American Orchid Society



2 x *Renanthera* John Losgar (*Ren. citrina* x *Ren. imschootiana*)

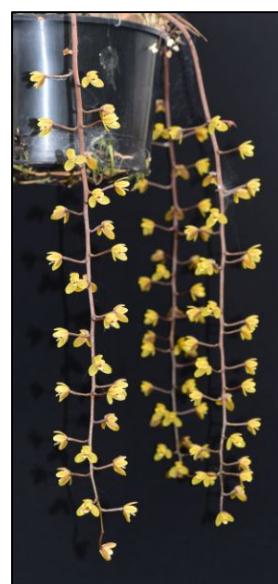
Chysis laevis x *chelsonii*



Sedirea japonica



Plectorrhiza tridentata



Cymbidium madidum

*FS 0.08cm



Aerangis modesta x *elisii*

*FS = Flower size based on IOSPE



Brassia verrucosa?



Dendrobium Hilda Poxon
nestling against what looks like a Hydrangea leaf



Den. Gerald McGraith



Dendrobium thrysiflorum



Paph. philippinense (dwarf)



Cymbidium suave



Dendrobium
Gowan's Tangelo



Rlc. Topp That?



Zygodactylia Dragon
Kitten 'Purr'



Pleurothallis stricta
*FS 1cm

In case you were wondering, the photo of Lee's *Den. Gowan's Tangelo* was taken amongst *Pleurothallis* & *Masdevallia* plants in her bush house..... it is Tangelo.

Cynorkis guttata aerial view - Jim Brydie



A terrestrial from Madagascar that grows a bit like Habenaria in that it is deciduous and dormant underground through our winter.

The flowers come up straight from the dormant bulb when growth restarts and the leaves which develop from the flower stem don't show much until after the flowers finish.

The flower stem is about 25-30cm tall and the flowers form an umbel at the top, kind of arranged like the spikes of an umbrella. To show the pretty flowers off best I took this shot from directly above looking down on the umbel. JB

Leptotes bicolor – Jim Brydie →



Sarcochilus Serenade 'Spots' - John Chang



Leptotes bicolor - John Chang



Neostylis Pinky - John Chang



2 x Dendrobium thyrsiflorum - DL



Den. densiflorum - DL



Dendrobium pierardii - DL



Pleurothallis striata – DL



Dendrobium regium - DL



Den. Oriental Beauty 'Ocarina'



2 x Dendrobium Yodogimi x Oriental Beauty 'Ocarina'



Above are three beautiful soft cane Dendrobiums from **Chris Wilson**. *The first of which is Den. Oriental Beauty 'Ocarina' purchased from Bananacoast Orchids many years ago. In October 2011 I sowed seed from a pod where this had been crossed onto Den. Yodogimi. The next two images are of the better two of the few first flowering seedlings of this year; regrettably most colours are wishy-washy – CW.*

More beauties from **Chris Wilson**. *The image below left is of the bench outside a western facing window. The bench is made from sections of galvanised water pipe joined with Downee clamps where metal mesh forms the base to support the pots. The bench is protected with shade cloth and during the hottest time of year a second layer of shade cloth is added above. The yellow flowers are Gomesas (either marshalliana or a hybrid between marshalliana and marshalliana x forbesii).*



These are grown in a free draining medium - either charcoal or cork.

Only just visible is a plant of Oncidium incurvum x leucochilum.

This is shown in more detail in the image to the right. →



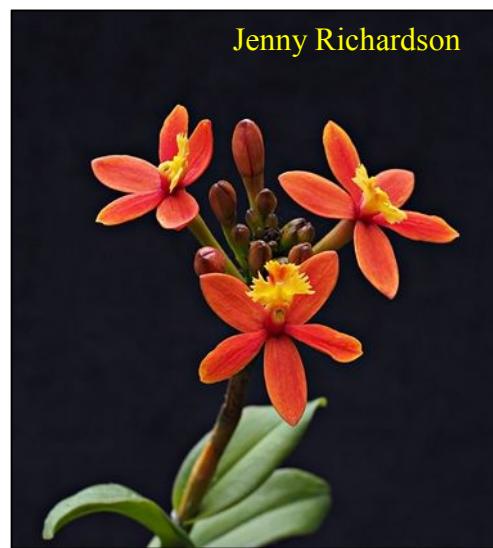
The incurvum x leucochilum is easy to grow; the biggest problem is finding stakes long enough to support the somewhat long, floppy spike. I grow it in predominantly Orchia bark. Flowers are 30 to 33mm across and there were 98 flowers on the spike shown which was about 165cm long - CW.



Epidendrum – Jenny Richardson



Cattleya Pink Flash – Chris Wilson



Jenny Richardson

Cattleya Pink Flash is a hybrid of Cattleya (a.k.a. Sophrolaeliocattleya) Tangerine Jewel crossed with Cattleya (a.k.a. Laelia) rupestris. I grow it cold under shadecloth in a squat 100mm terracotta orchid pot using a mix of coarse bark, cork and river pebbles. Flowers are 5cm across on 15cm tall spikes – CW.



Sergorara Yokosuka Story (Epi. René Marqués x Rlc. Spirit)

Lycaste aromatica



Dendrobium Unknown

Cymbidium Balkus 'Luath'

Cattleya Unknown



Dendrobium Unknown Ex. M Corrigan

Coelogyne Unknown



Bifrenaria harrisoniae

Dendrobium Australian Artist