

OCTOBER 2022

Christmas Hamper

Once again, we will have a Christmas Hamper that will be presented at the Christmas Show and Buffet at the December Meeting.

Janet James has volunteered to put this together, but she needs your help to fill the Hamper.

Everybody that donates produce will receive a ticket for the draw.

In addition, we all can increase our chances by purchasing additional tickets prior to the draw being made.

Please bring spare tins, packets etc for donation to the Hamper and give them to Janet.

All donations are welcome at both the November and December meetings.

I know that everybody who has won the Hamper has been overjoyed by this brilliant present just before Christmas.

So take a look in your cupboards for an opportunity to donate to this wonderful prize.



Have a look and listen . . .

On the 30th September Malcolm and I were invited to be guests on Jane Perrone's Podcast "On the Ledge". She is a journalist specialising in garden and house plants and she has been producing this podcast for the last 5 years.

Jane visited Malcolm's greenhouse where we were both interviewed with the aim of being listened to by the many young enthusiasts in the UK & beyond that are interested in Orchids but who may not yet be a member of an Orchid Society.

The first part of the Podcast is based around Malcolm's orchid journey and his passion for Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums. This is followed after an advertising section by an interview with us both on the reasons for joining a local Orchid Society with the benefits of being able to share knowledge with experienced growers.

The Podcast can be found by clicking on the link below (in blue) or by going to a Podcast platform such as "Apple Podcasts" or "Spotify" on your mobile phone or going to www.janeperrone.com/on-the-ledge where you will find Podcast Episode 240.

Happy listening

Lina Smalinske

Next Meeting

At the next meeting on Saturday 5th November Andrew Bannister will be talking on "Tropical Orchids without the Heat". This is a very topical subject as we are all wrestling with high energy costs whilst doing our utmost to grow orchids. I am sure that Andrew will present some thoughts and ideas that will help. I look forward to a very interesting meeting.



You can follow Solihull & District Orchid Society on Facebook and Twitter



If you have any pictures or information you would like to put on our website please email: lina_sala@yahoo.co.uk or copy and pictures for newsletter: ballm1@mac.com
Society email address: www.solihullorchidsociety.co.uk

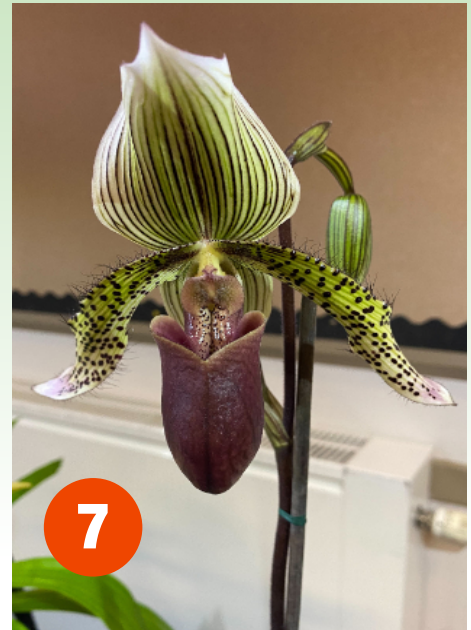
October table display



1. Paphiopedilum niveum 29pts Malcolm Moodie - **2.** Paphiopedilum Dolls Kobold 32pts Malcolm Moodie - **3.** Paphiopedilum niveum B 30pts Malcolm Moodie - **4.** Bulbophyllum fascinator 29pts Pat Bussy - **5.** Odontodia "Hambutem Rose" 28pts Graham Jones



October table display



- 6. Coelogyne ochracea x lawrenceana 31pts**
Pat Bussy
- 7. Paphiopedillum Lord Derby 31pts**
Malcolm Moodie
- 8. Dendrobium sulawesi x cuthbertsonii 30pts**
Pat Bussy
- 9. Neofinetia falcata 28pts** Lina Smalinske
- 10. Phal hybrid 26pts** Liz



Orchids of Thailand

The talk titled “Orchids of Thailand” contained much more than just images of orchids including architecture, culture, other flora, fauna and stories.

The treks centre around either Chiang Mai in the north or Udon Thani in the east.

The talk kicked off with an image of a typical street scene in Chiang Mai showing masses of telephone/electricity cables, Tuk Tuks, and fast-food restaurant signs. An indication of the bustling city and the westernisation of Thailand.

However, the tour started at the Temple on the Mountain with views of Buddhist shrines, local architecture, the Golden Temple and a huge bougainvillea.

The first trek was focussed on Doi Inthanon which is the highest point in Thailand where it was hoped some orchids would be seen. On the way they stopped off to wonder at an area of buildings which were planted up with English bedding plants all in honour of the king and queen of Thailand. The main aim was, of course, to look for orchids including thousands of *Coelogyne nitida* covering the trees at the top of the mountain.

After leaving the nursery the local terrain was shown which is described as a dry Dipterocarp Forest set amongst high, jagged mountains. This did provide the opportunity to see *Paph. bellatulum* growing in the wild, but not in flower, along with *Den. capillipes*

Whilst looking for orchids in the wild was the aim they visited a local orchid nursery (CITES approved) and an orchid farm (not approved). Some very



Coelogyne nitida



Paphiopedilum concolor

Orchids of Thailand

continued

nice plants were seen in the nursery including *Den. senile*, *Den. jenkinsii* and *Paph. exul* with 5 spikes. The orchid farm had hundreds of *Vanda*'s in flower all growing under shade cloth, but none could be purchased.

They were soon out trekking once more seeing various *Dendrobiums* – *draconis*, *secundum* and *lindleyi*, as well as an unknown *Vanda* growing on a huge boulder with seedlings established in the mosses nearby. Upon moving on to another site they saw *Den. dixanthum* and *gratiosissimum* along with *Cym. aloifolium* and *Eulophia macrobulbon*.

The second half of the talk was in the east in quite different terrain (low Montane) where the mountains are much lower and the trees dominated by evergreens. This offered the opportunity to see a completely different range of orchids. However, on the way they visited Sukhotai which was the ancient capital of Siam. Here they saw a well-preserved city built in the style of Ankor Wat in Cambodia.

They were soon trekking in the forest noting small jewel orchids on the forest floor (*Anoectochilus roxburghii*) and *Paph. concolor*. The following day they visited a site that was the last stronghold of the communist rebels who were eventually defeated by the government. Now it is a reserve and numerous orchids were found including *Den. thyrsiflorum* in full spike, *Den. draconis*, *Cym. pendulum*, *Seidenfadenia mitrata* and an unknown *Nervillea* that turned out to be *aroagona* after pictures and pickled flowers (in whiskey) were sent to Kew.

At this location, 2 highly coloured lizards were seen along with a range of interesting orchid species – *Bulbophyllum. capillipes*, *Den. fimbriatum*, *Den. dayanum*, *Bulbo. dayanum* that looked like a nest of hungry nestlings, *Den. primulinum* and *cruentum*.

However, this trek also offered the opportunity to see *Paph. villosum* (one of the epiphytic *Paphiopedilums*) and *Paph. sukhakulii* which is reported as extinct in the wild. It was pleasing to see that it isn't.

The trekking ended at the Queen Sirikit Botanical Garden near Chiang Mai which brought a close to this interesting talk.



Dendrobium thyrsiflorum