

British Paphiopedilum Society



Journal

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Contents

Editor’s notes	3
Chairman’s notes	3
News	4
Plant Appreciation results—January 2016	
John Garner, Pictures by Derek Jackson	4
Paphiopedilum Wössner Helene—Green Charlene Group	
Christof Rehm, pictures Christof Rehm	11
2016 Committee	15
Dates for your diary	16



Paph. micranthum var *eberneum*, winner of the Paph species class at Solihull
Front Cover—the Best in Show plant of Paph. *Leeanum*

Editor's notes

I'm not trying to make a habit of issuing a couple of journals at once as it really adds to the postal complexities of sending out. I really just don't know where this year has gone.

I'm very grateful to Chris Rehm for a short but wonderful contribution to this edition. The pictures that he has supplied to go alongside it really tell the story. When they say that a picture is worth a thousand words then this is indeed a rich article. When you have read the article and seen the pictures especially the one on the back cover of a group then I'm sure that you will agree, not to mention being just a bit envious

John

Chairman's notes

These are rather brief this quarter, but there will be rather more content in the next issue as we approach the business end of the year.

The main item to note just now is that we have had to change the speaker for the coming January as the planned speaker will not be able to get CITES licences in time. This isn't for the UK import side of things as we can help to sort this out, but to get the export ones from the USDA is a serious problem.

I have once again been busy scouring the world for speakers, and once again come up against barriers of traders not wanting to come to the UK. I am quite frustrated about this as the world has many, many good growers both amateur and professional. Finally I have been able to contact Sam Tsui, and he is about the only person who seems happy to travel the world from the USA, especially to Europe. I know you will say that Sam only came a couple of years ago, but to be blunt it is either him or no meeting! He has promised a couple of new talks rather than a repeat of what he has previously spoken about.

Sam has recently put out a new list which many of you will have seen, and he continues to update his online list. Please support Sam by ordering as many plants as you need, and as early as you can so that he can get the best ones put aside.

Paul

News

The Society's former treasurer Geoff Hands is giving up growing Paphs. This is down to age & health as much as them not taking too well to their latest accommodation.

Geoff's plants are mainly complex hybrids, with all sorts of others from across the board. If you are interested in any of them please contact Geoff at 61orchidman@gmail.com... for what may be remaining.

Plant Appreciation—January 2016

This runs throughout the weekend meeting at Solihull, with entries coming thick and fast as members arrived prior to the event. I think that it all went as well as can be expected. As usual they are split into the usual selection of classes. Once again glass vases are awarded to first place in each class, and the best in show wins the Jim Bink's Memorial Medal.

Species

A good number of plants were entered in this class—as has been the case in recent years with quality once again quite high, although nothing was world class, and this resulted in a number of plants gaining votes with the podium places tightly grouped. The winner by a small margin was David Trendell's *micranthum* var. *eberneum* (see inside cover).

	species	Owner	pts
1 st	<i>micranthum</i> var. <i>eberneum</i>	David Trendell	7
2 nd	<i>fairrieianum</i>	Allan Burdis	6
3 rd	<i>spicerianum</i>	Malcolm Moodie	5

Primary Hybrids

Another well supported class, but with slightly fewer entries the votes were more compressed. The difficulty here for most members was really which *Fanaticum* to select. As with most hybrids colour and shape can vary as can spike height and leaf mottling. All these subtly different here, and this can be seen by the split votes. Combined of course *Fanaticum* would have won, but of course this isn't the way that things should work in a first past the post basis, and the multiflowered *Leeanum* ran out the deserved winner for Brian Walker.

	Primary Hybrid	Owner	pts
1 st	Leeanum	Brian Walker	11
2 nd	Fanaticum	Allan Burdis	9
3 rd	Fanaticum	Malcolm Moodie	5

Novelty Hybrids

Novelty is an interesting name. It covers hybrids crossed with species, and Maudiae type hybrids. This can be a huge range of plants from relatively standard plants to some quite bizarre crosses of small plants crossed with multiflorals. There were certainly some interesting crosses this year but not quite to the extremes suggested. Hatsue Otsuka (Golddollar x *rothschildianum*) easily won the class for Malcolm Moodie. Golddollar is *primulinum* x *armeniaceum* and so the overall cross is just a tad different from the ubiquitous Dollgoldi, with *primulinum* keeping the flower size down to probably just the right size. Malcolm's plant held 3 very good flowers.

Second place was very tight between Wössner Perle and a straightforward



Paph. Hatsue Otsuka

Maudiae with 2nd place votes coming into the equation promoting Wössner Perle into 2nd.

	Novelty Hybrid	Owner	pts
1 st	Hatsue Otsuka	Malcolm Moodie	18
2 nd	Wossner Perle	Allan Burdis	5
3 rd	Maudiae	Brian Walker	4

Complex Hybrids

This almost always the Editor’s favourite class, and this year is no different. My own views are of course biased towards high quality whites, and I was disappointed that In-Charm Mystique only came third. This doesn’t

detract however from the more appreciated Sorceror’s Stone and the ‘old timer’ Danella ‘Chilton’ that ultimately won the class for Brian Walker.



	Complex Hybrid	Owner	pts
1 st	Danella ‘Chilton’	Brian Walker	11
2 nd	Sorceror’s Stone	Allan Burdis	6
3 rd	In-Charm Mystique	Malcolm Moodie	4

Multifloral
Hybrids

Sadly just a single entry this year, which is becoming a trend in what is accepted as the wrong time of the year for these hybrids. Berenice is an very old primary hybrid dating back to 1891, although it is unlikely that Stuart’s plant is that old of course. It is a fine hybrid between lowii and philippinense and would have withstood most competition.



	Multifloral Hybrid	Owner	pts
1 st	Bernice	Stuart Jagger	unan

Phrag. Species

This was another disappointing class with only a single entry—where we normally have quite a few. *schlimii* was the only entry, and was a very nice specimen plant. It has a great deal of importance with early Phrag



breeding as it was the smallest flower around until the besseae era started almost 90 years later. A variable coloured species, this one was a delicate light shade, and won the Andy Phillips Vase for Hilary Hobbs.

	Phrag. species	Owner	pts
1 st	schlimii	Hilary Hobbs	unan



Phrag Hybrids

Oddly only a couple of plants were entered this year where there are normally several to pick from. Jersey is a lovely small primary between *besseae* and *dalessandroi* (which some would say is still just a *besseae*), but this was totally overshadowed by the tall multigrowth multi-spiked Jason Fischer ‘Crimson King’ which continues to impress year upon year, as well as being a former Jim Binks medal winner. Well done Hilary.

	Phrag. Hybrid	Owner	pts
1 st	Jason Fischer	Hilary Hobbs	20
2 nd	Jersey 'Firebird'	Alan Smith	3

Foliage

A much underrated class, but quite well supported this year with a good number of entries of varying shades of colour and markings. *sukhakulii* always looks well, although tends towards smaller leaves. Voting was very close for the top 2 with some countback required to determine 2nd place for *concolor*, with a really rather excellent *lawrencianum* taking the top place and winning the Yvette Briois Medal. Unfortunately the Briois's couldn't make the meeting this year, so the medal was presented by Franz Glanz on their behalf.

	Foliage	Owner	pts
1 st	<i>lawrencianum</i>	Hilary Hobbs	10
2 nd	<i>concolor</i>	Hilary Hobbs	9
3 rd	<i>sukhakulii</i>	Allan Burdis	6



Professional

There were no entries this year, so the Ratcliffe platter wasn't awarded.

Best in Show

As always the highlight of the closing ceremony is the award of the Jim Binks Memorial Medal for the best plant. Although there are 7 entries the votes tend towards just a few plants, and this year 3 plants were clearly ahead of the others, all being quite large in 1 way or another. Commiserations to both Malcolm and Hilary for being joint runners up, and congratulations to Brian Walker who was quite surprised that he is the latest recipient of the medal—which was presented by Ted Croot.

	Best in Show	Owner	pts
1 st	Leeanum	Brian Walker	13
=2 nd	Hatsue Otsuka	Malcolm Moodie	5
=2 nd	Jason Fischer 'Crimson King'	Hilary Hobbs	5
=4 th	<i>micranthum</i>	David Trendell	1
=4 th	Danella 'Chilton'	Brian Walker	1
=4 th	Berenice	Stuart Jagger	1
	<i>schlimii</i>	Hilary Hobbs	



Green Charlene Group

A charming albino forma of *Paphiopedilum* Wössner Helene
Christof Rehm

Some of you may know the lovely and tiny Hybrid *Paphiopedilum* Wössner Helene. Franz Glanz (Woessner Orchideen, Germany) made this cross from *Paphiopedilum charlesworthii* and *Paphiopedilum helenae* and registered it in 2000.

Paphiopedilum charlesworthii found its way into our collection long ago and its first hybrids were registered more than 120 years ago. The breeders are amazed by its large dorsal sepal and the pure white staminode.

As recently as 1995 *Paphiopedilum helenae* was discovered in the North of Vietnam. This species is one of the tiniest one of the genus, at least at the time of its discovery. There are plants with a leaf span of 6 cm but 12-15 cm is the average. The flower size is 4 to 6 cm.

So what is the goal if you cross these two species? Of course you wish to get the best of both parents qualities. A big flower with a pink dorsal sepal of *charlesworthii* paired with the short leaves and sometimes pinkish coloured pouch of *helenae* would be a lovely plant for the *Paphiopedilum* enthusiast. Unfortunately that's not how



Left - a typical Paph. *helenae*. Right—Paph. *helenae* forma aureum 'Lemon Elf' SM-D.O.G.,



Paph. charlesworthii forma *sandowiae* 'Wacousta' AM-AOS

genetics work. On the one hand the resulting hybrid shows relatively short leaves and the dorsal sepal is big. On the other hand the colour of the flower is of a muddy brown most times. Only the better ones have a redish overlay on the brown petals and pouch. But there is one great property that really is desireable: these little plants are of an high vitality. They are easily growing and in no time you can get a tiny Paph in a pot of 10 cm with eight or even more flowers at the same time. What a show! This display is presented between late August to October. Not many Paphiopedilums flower at this time of the year. This is another bonus of this cross.

In my eyes this could be a successful primary hybrid if only the colour wasn't so grubby! But there is a way, to solve this problem. There exist albino forms of both species: *P. charlesworthii* forma *sandowiae* and *P. helenae* forma *aureum*. Both colour forms flower in shades of green and yellow because they lack the ability to build red pigments. Unfortunately not every cross of two albino Paphs



Paph. Woessner Helene gx Green Charlene gp.
Did someone mention teacup Paphs?- Ed

results in albino progenies. It happens quite often that the resulting plants of such rare parents appear with the usual colouring. Therefore the breeder has to take quite a risk to get possible such an amazing outcome.

In the case of success you are recompensed by a bunch of easily growing plantlets with bright flowers. This hybrid is such a fast growing one that some plants displayed two or even three flowers only two years after deflasking. As this albino primary is very well distinguished from the grex P. Woessner Helene it was registered at RHS as a new group. It's called *Paphiopedilum* Woessner Helene gx Green Charlene gp.

NB. Franz Glanz delivered a talk on his hybridisation programme at Solihull in January 2016. A comprehensive write up of the talk will follow later this year—Ed.



Above—a tale of 2 Fanaticums showing quite different breeding lines and parentage. 2nd place in the Primary class went to the plant at left, with 3rd on the right.

Below—In-Charm Mystique, 3rd in the Complex Hybris Class.



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Paph.
Woessner
Helene gx
Green Char-
lene gp.—
first flower-
ing. Just 2
years from
flask

Dates for your diary

Malvern International Orchid Show

June 17-19th 2016

BPS exhibiting

BPS Annual Meeting & AGM

Jarvis Ramada Solihull

January 21-22nd 2017

Guest Speaker—Sam Tsui



Paph. Woessner Helene gx Green Charlene gp.—group picture of very consistent plants

Society Website—WWW.Paphiopedilum.org.uk