

ORCHID NEWS

June 2010

Read on for...shows and events around the country and at the nursery this month, news, seasonal growing tips, special offers, plants in bud and new additions.

Big Shows for June

The summer is here, we hope, and with it come the big summer orchid events.

The first one in June is the **Tatton Park Orchid Show**, hosted by the North of England Orchid Society. This Society was founded in 1897 and is probably the oldest orchid society in the world! It holds monthly meetings around the Manchester and North West area and if you would like to know more then please visit their website at www.orchid.org.uk.

However, this month's event will be held in The Tenants Hall, Tatton Park, Cheshire on **Saturday 5th 10am – 5pm & Sunday 6th June 10am – 4pm**. Admission to the show is **FREE!** (Car parking and admission to other attractions may be chargeable).

There will be a great selection of plants on show and for sale from leading amateur and professional growers. Its' well worth a visit and there is much to see with the beautiful mansion and grounds too.



Our second outing this month will be the 4th annual **Peterborough International Orchid Show** which this year is incorporating a **British Orchid Council Congress** making it even more appealing with exhibits from all around the globe and a programme of lectures for registrants and visitors. The show will be part of **the East of England Show** and is held at the East of England Showground, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire on **Friday 18th, Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th June**.

More information about the programme of events for this congress can be found on the websites:

www.peterboroughinternationalorchidshow.org.uk

www.british-orchid-council.info

or call Brian Woodward on 01709 790427

Unfortunately we can't bring all our plants to a show so to avoid disappointment we are more than happy to bring along plants and sundries for collection at any show. Please let us have any pre-orders 2 days before the event's opening day. There is no obligation.

What's on at the Nursery this Month?

Beginners' Workshop 'Orchids in Your Home' at the nursery Sunday 13th June.

Come along to our **FREE** workshop about how to start growing orchids as houseplants. Starts at 2pm, no booking necessary.

Re-potting & Advice Weekend
Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th June
10am–4pm

Bring along plants you need advice on or for re-potting guidance!

Devon Orchid Society Meeting Sunday 27th June, 2pm start. Janet Plested of Plested Orchids will be visiting this month and talking about lots of unusual species with plants for sale.

The Society is always looking for new members who are keen to learn and participate. If you would be interested to finding out more then come along to one of the monthly meetings and chat to come other orchid enthusiasts.

If you live elsewhere in the UK and would like to find out where your local orchid society is go to the British Orchid Council website: www.british-orchid-council.info for a full list or request a copy of the Grower's & Buyer's Guide

What's In Flower Now?

If you drop in to see us this month you will find we have lots of summer fragrance in our show house **Orchid Paradise** at the moment. There are large specimens of brassias in full flower which look extraordinary with their spidery, green blooms. Also many pendent flowering orchids such as gongoras and



coelogyne. A beautiful example is *Coelogyne dayana* which has very long stems of coffee and cream flowers (see photo). We have plants available at £15 due to flower in another 12 months.

Visit us for free with Gardeners' World Magazine

If you picked up the May issue of Gardeners' World Magazine and you have the free Gardens to Visit Guide you can get **2 for 1 entry** many gardens all around the UK. **Orchid Paradise** is included so make sure you bring your 2 for 1 card with you when you visit. (admission is £2.50 per adult so you will save £2.50 when 2 of you visit).

July Dates for the Diary...

The largest show of the summer is saved for July with the **RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show** held in the Palace Deer Park from **Tuesday 6th – Sunday 11th July**. This is a really spectacular event with visitors loving the laid back atmosphere and plenty of space to wander around and enjoy the plants, gardens and much more.

There will be one big floral marquee this year and you will find us at **exhibit number 35**. We will have some very showy and exciting orchids on offer that you can take away on the day plus feed and compost too. We hope that the sun will be shining and look forward to seeing you there!

For ticket information then please contact the RHS on 0844 338 7524 or at www.rhs.org.uk

The **July Orchid Workshop** at the nursery is all about creating the right environment in your **greenhouse or conservatory** and making it orchid-friendly! Everyone is welcome and the **FREE** talk will start at 2pm.

Advance Show Dates around the British Isles

To give you a bit of notice, here a few more dates for later in the summer, mark them on your calendar now and more info will follow next month:

Orchid Festival at Scone Palace, Perth, Scotland, Sat 7th & Sun 9th August.

Orchid Day at Coleman's Garden Centre, Templepatrick, Northern Ireland, Sat 21st August.

Summer Orchid Fair at Dinton Pastures, Wokingham, Sat 28th & Sun 29th August.

Coffee Shop Update...

Lots of you have already visited our new Coffee Shop and are enjoying the great food and drink on offer. So next time you drop by make sure you leave enough time to sample some of the goodies on the menu. These include **Devon Cream Teas, Jacket Potatoes, Paninis and Sandwiches with a range of fillings including daily specials, pasties and delicious home-made cakes.** Everything is sourced locally so it's all Devon goodness! There's even a big squashy sofa to relax on and toys to entertain the kids! You won't want to leave!

Find us in the BRITISH PLANT NURSERY GUIDE...



This is a new website devoted to British nurseries and there's lots of info on all sorts of nurseries, mostly in the south west, as well as great suggestions for days out incorporating these lovely places to

visit. More nurseries will be added on soon so keep checking back.

www.britishplantnurseryguide.co.uk

Jobs for June...

Your cymbidiums and any other really cool growing orchids should be outside now for the summer months. This includes, cool dendrobiums, coelogynes and pleiones. In the past we have also grown cool Laelia species such as L. anceps as well as encyclias and odontoglossums outdoors with good results. As long as they are well watered in dry and warm weather and kept in the shade, they should benefit from the holiday in the garden! During very wet weather make sure they don't get waterlogged, move inside again to allow them to dry out if this happens.

When you have moved many of the orchids out of the greenhouse is a good time to carry out greenhouse repairs on the staging or walls which you would normally not be able to get to.

So make the most of the opportunity and good weather!

Continue to keep the orchids humid, shady and well ventilated in the warm weather. This will prevent dehydration and will suit the cooler growing orchids better.

Keep an eye out for pests during the warmer weather. Aphids, red spider mite and mealybug will thrive in the warmth. Be vigilant and regularly wipe leaves and mist to keep a humid environment which they will not like. Wash off aphids with soapy water when they are spotted.

Would you like to reach 1000s of orchid growers every month? If so then ask us about advertising in Orchid News! We can offer reasonable rates and discount for multiple issues. Contact Sara now!

JUNE OFFERS

Orchids flowering now...

Paphiopedilum Clair de Lune 'Edgard van Belle' FCC/RHS –

This is a classic antique orchid, a really superb variety of the hybrid awarded by the RHS in 1935. It has proved to be an excellent grower, making strong attractively patterned foliage and is free flowering. These plants are divisions from the original awarded clone that has been grown over many years. The singular blooms are around 12cm across and are very long-lasting, making good cut flowers for arrangements. Our plants are now in bud with a single stem. Grow warm, shady and moist at all times. Numbers are limited.

Rare and very special. Now in bud **£35**



Dendrobium Red Fairy

These orchids are really showy and also fragrant. They are cool growing and need a good rest in the winter to encourage the spring flowers. If they are kept too wet and/or warm in winter then the plants will grow and not bloom. In winter try to let the temperature drop to 10°C (50°F) or slightly below. They grow well alongside other cool growing orchids such as cymbidiums and many coelogynes. This variety has a lovely rich pink flower and many are produced along the length of the 'cane'. These 'canes' are just elongated pseudobulbs so when they finish flowering they should not be cut off but left as a continuing food storage organ.

Flowering now **£25**

Brassia verrucosa

Known as one of the 'Spider Orchids' this species comes from Mexico and has a beautiful spray of pale green flowers with long petals and a dark green spotted lip. A fairly easy to grow species this one likes it cool with a 10°C (50°F) minimum in winter with good light and regularly spraying to keep up the humidity. As a bonus it is also sweetly scented!

Limited numbers are now in bud **£25**



Brassia Rex

If you are taken by the exotic flowers of the 'Spider Orchids' then we have a lovely hybrid in bud now too. *Brassia Rex* is a cross between the two species *verrucosa* and *gireoudiana*, giving larger, richer coloured flowers on a longer stem. Grow in intermediate temperature minimum 12°C (55°F) with good light and regularly spraying to keep up the humidity. As a bonus it is also sweetly scented!

Limited numbers of large plants are now in bud **£30**



Dendrochilum cobbianum

The 'Chain Orchids' are a lovely group with their arching stems of tiny golden or cream flowers. This species is no exception and is an easy one to grow whilst also being free flowering. The genus is widely spread around South East Asia and enjoy an intermediate temperature minimum 12°C with regular watering throughout their growing season.

Now in bud **£12** or larger at **£20**

Pendent Cymbidiums

Cymbidium devonianum is a lovely pendent species from India and when used in hybridisation with other species and hybrids makes some very attractive alternatives to the run of the mill cymbidiums that we see so much of. We have a selection of these flowering at the moment with lovely arching or pendent stems with small but beautiful flowers, often in very dark, rich colours. They like cool conditions just like the other cymbidiums and good light, especially in winter. They are all good sized plants and have several flower spikes



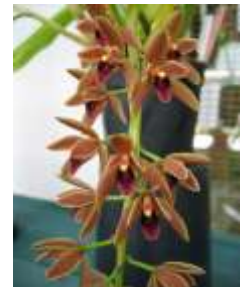
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1 *Cymbidium Dorothy Stockill*

Miniature deep red flowers on pendent stems. Flowering now **£40**

2 *Cymbidium Alita Vallii*

Deep burgundy flowers on arching stems. Flowering now **£40**

3 *Cymbidium Devon Shell*

Peachy-pink coloured flowers with a pink lip on semi-pendent stems. Flowering now **£40**

4 *Cymbidium Cricket*

A lovely primary cross between *Cym devonianum* and *Cym madidum* with many miniature flowers in orangey-red on long stems. Flowering now **£40**



Cymbidium Stella Francis

This late flowering variety is available with fresh flowers and buds now. It has striking green flowers with dark burgundy spots on the lip. Limited number available with several spikes (pattern may vary to that shown) **£40**

NEW BARK

We have some new bark in stock from a new source and it is a very high quality medium grade ideal for many orchids. We have large bags available which are approximately 85L at **£29.99**. If you would like to see a sample let us know.

NEW ORCHIDS

Here are a few new species on our benches...

Dendrochilum uncatum – This is a more compact growing and flowering chain orchid with short, arching stems of cream flowers. Intermediate minimum 12°C.

Flowering size **£20**.



Maxillaria coccinea – Clusters of small bright red flowers around the base of the plant, makes a good specimen plant but still as a manageable plant. Intermediate minimum 12°C. Flowering size **£12**.



Acineta superba – Pendent spikes grow through the basket with several large, waxy reddish-brown flowers, very fragrant. Intermediate minimum 12°C. Flowering size **£25**



Rhynchostele bictoniense - Formally know as Odontoglossum this lovely species have tall, upright stems of flowers with a heart-shaped lip and brownly petals. Cool minimum 10°C. Flowering size **£25**



Paphiopedilum wardii – Attractive mottled foliage with single, long-lasting flowers, green background with darker mottling. Warm minimum 15°C. Young plants **£7**

Pleurothallis palliolata – A miniature orchid with rounded leaves on the top of thin stems. The small dark red striped flowers sit atop the leaves. Flowering size **£10**



Please note all prices exclude delivery