

ORCHID NEWS

February 2012 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.

Order online at www.orchids.uk.com

Orchids for Your Valentine!

It's that time of year when you can really treat your loved one to something extra special and why not choose an orchid? They are exotic, beautiful, charming and look good in any home! Here are a few suggestions for easy to grow, long-lasting orchids flowering now.

A personal Valentine's message can be included with your special gift. Plus more listed online.

Please place your order by Monday 13th February for delivery on Tuesday 14th February, Valentine's Day.

Burrageara Nelly Isler

Passionate red blooms on 2 stems from an attractive leafy plant. Keep in a cool room in shade in the summer and mist the leaves regularly. Now with scented flowers and buds! **£25**



Dendrobium Berry Oda

A mass of pretty bright pink fragrant flowers held above the compact-growing plant. Cool growing with a winter rest. Now with flowers and buds! **£20**



Dendrobium Spring Dream

Many frilly white flowers are held up the length of the leafy canes. Cool growing and fragrant. Now in bloom! **£25**



Vanda Blue Magic

Fantastic lavender blue, large blooms on either hanging or potted plants. Keep warm and sprayed regularly. Now in flower!

Hanging £35, potted £40



February Garden Centre Events

2 more special orchid days at garden centres near you...

Saturday 11th February BROOKFIELDS GARDEN & LEISURE CENTRE

Our next Orchid Day is at this popular Garden Centre at Mapperley Plains, Nottingham NG3 5RW. Free entry and parking! Lots of orchids for sale, plus a free orchid talk at 2pm. Open 10.30am-4.30pm.
www.brookfieldsgardencentre.co.uk
Tel 0115 926 8200

Saturday 18th February LANGFORD NURSERIES & GARDEN CENTRE

Our orchid day at these independent nurseries is always well attended. At Langford, Nr Biggleswade, Beds, SG18 9SD. Lots of orchids for sale, plus 2 free orchid talks at 11am & 2pm. Open 9am-4pm.
www.langfordgc.co.uk
Tel 01462 700791

Papazulus Coffee Shop is now offering a wide range of Fairtrade gifts

Fabulous Phalaenopsis!

The orchid that lasts the longest is the Phalaenopsis Moth Orchid and the flowers go on for months with little care. So this is an ideal gift for a beginner. They are very happy in a warm room and watered sparingly. Full growing instructions come with any orchid ordered. The following Phalaenopsis are in flower and bud now with **2 stems** each and are **£20** per plant.



**Balkan's
Kaleidoscope**



**Dream
Diamond**



Vivian

Hudson



Pebble Beach



Budding Pleiones

These small growing orchids like it really cool and are often grown alongside alpines. They are deciduous so lose their leaves in winter. They are now starting wake up and will flower soon. After flowering the new shoot will continue to grow over the summer and make a new bulb by the autumn when it will go into its winter rest again.



***Pleione formosana* 'Peggy'**

A pretty pink species with spotted lip.
£6 per bulb, potted in bud now.

***Pleione* Jorullo**

A deep pink hybrid between the species
P. limprichtii and *P. bulbococoides*
£6 per bulb, potted in bud now.



***Pleione* (unamed)**

We also have some unamed bulbs, they are most likely to be pink and are in bud now.

Only £5 per bulb, potted.

Do you grow pleiones and have a surplus of bulbs that you don't have room for? We may be interested if they are flowering size, and named varieties. Please get in touch.

February Notes: So the mild winter has helped our heating bills, and yours too I'm sure but its starting to get cold now so watch those thermostats! Some orchids are now waking up from their winter rest and will require watering to be increased and even feeding to be started. Begin with a high nitrogen feed, our Orchid Focus 'Grow' is best, and this will help get those spring shoots growing strong. If your orchid is a winter grower then it might be completing its growth soon so you could switch to giving it the high potash Orchid Focus 'Bloom' to encourage the flowers. For more on feeding go to this page on our website: <http://www.orchids.uk.com/FurtherOrchidCulture.htm#Feeding>

Orchid Species in Bud this Month...

Dendrochilum wenzelii

Similar to the yellow *D. javieri*, this is a beautiful bright red species from The Philippines. It has robust thin leaves and the sprays of tiny flowers are produced from the new growths. Intermediate growing. Now in bud! **£20**



Maxillariella variabilis 'Yellow'

This miniature species grows as an attractive clump of slightly climbing bulbs with bright yellow flowers nestled at the base of the foliage. The flowers have a red centre and a spicy scent. Cool growing from Central America.

Now in bud only **£12**

Dendrochilum propinquum

Another species of the Philippine 'chain orchids', this one has cream flowers in a curious spiral arrangement which makes it very attractive. Intermediate growing and compact habit of growth. Now in flower **£20**



Coelia triptera

Long leaves come from rounded, squat bulbs and the creamy-white flowers are produced from the base of these bulbs, clustered together on upright stems. Intermediate growing and prefers to be on the drier side. Now in spike!

Standard **£20** or large **£25**

Orchid Masterclasses

Our Next Beginners' Orchid Masterclass on Sunday 26th February is now full but there are still a few places left on **our Improvers' Masterclass on Sunday 25th March**. So if you have a few orchids already and would like to learn how to get more out of them then give us a call to book your place now.

Tickets are £55 or £49 for RHS members for the full day course including lunch. The Beginners' Masterclass will be held again in the autumn on Sunday 2nd September, bookings are now being taken.

RHS LONDON ORCHID & BOTANICAL ART SHOW

16 - 17 March 2012
10am - 5pm

Exclusive Preview Evening
15 March 6:30pm - 8:30pm

RHS Horticultural Halls,
Westminster

Nearest tubes: St James' Park or Victoria



Royal
Horticultural
Society

Exclusively
for 2012

Enjoy an extensive collection
of botanical art from the
Hampton Court Palace
Florilegium Society.



See and buy sumptuous orchids from the finest British and international growers, and admire stunning works in the largest botanical art show of the year.

Entrance: members £5, non-members £8
Preview Evening: £12, includes entry on 16th or 17th March

rhs.org.uk/londonshows

0845 612 1253

Cypripedium flavescens var. *subrotundatum*
JL McAloon, RHS Unkley Library
Purchase RHS prints online rhs.org.uk/prints

Follow us on @the_rhs /rhsLondon
B&C Bookham Road, Putney, London SW15 2NF

Orchid Society Shows coming up...

Saturday 25th February

BOURNEMOUTH ORCHID SOCIETY SPRING SHOW At Allendale Centre, Hanham Road, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 1AS. Open 12noon-4.30pm. Always an enjoyable day!

Saturday 3rd March

CHELTENHAM ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW

We are pleased to be returning to this society, the show is at the Churchdown Community Centre, Parton Road, Churchdown, Gloucester, GL3 2JH. 10.30am – 4.00pm. www.cheltenhamorchids.org

Saturday 3rd March

WESSEX ORCHID SOCIETY SPRING SHOW

At Portchester Community School, Whitehart Lane, Portchester, PO16 9BD. 12noon-4.30pm. www.wessexorchidsociety.org.uk

Saturday 31st March

BRISTOL & WEST OF ENGLAND ORCHID SHOW At The Town Hall, Chipping Sodbury.

Limited Restrepias...

These charming miniature orchids are flowering throughout the year and are proving to be a really lovely, popular genus to grow. And rightly so! Our collection is growing and this month we have some selected divisions of our mother plants of some species which are not often available. These orchids are cool growing and come from South America. They are ideal if you are looking to add some smaller plants to a collection or set up a miniature orchid tank.

All the following are flowering size and are available in limited numbers.



R. antennifera
'Fromtino
Giant' £15

R. trichoglossa
£12



R. falkenbergii
£10

R. purpurea
'Rayas Vino
Tinto' £20



R. cuprea
£15

R. contorta
£15



R. guttulata
£15

R. wagnerii
£10

