

BOC NEWSLETTER

An occasional publication from The British Orchid Council

August 2017

Editor: Ian Parsons

Editorial

This issue is a little later than usual, and although I started it in August, it is now well in to September before it can be completed - please forgive me!

This last year has seen the demise of several societies. This is due to many reasons, but mainly to the decline in interest in joining societies and clubs generally. This has led to an increasingly ageing membership which inevitably leads on to a decreasing membership. However, there are some societies that seem to be growing and attracting younger people to swell their numbers. There will be a chance at the next BOC Meeting (5th November) for societies to share how they are coping with the challenges, from which we might all learn something. Please encourage your delegates to attend.

Call for help

As time progresses I feel that the time is approaching for me to hand over some tasks to others, and the production of this Newsletter is one such task. If there is anyone who would like to take it on then please contact me directly by email.

Editor.

Photographic Competition 2016

Another good year for entries in the Photographic Competition. The results for 2016 are as follows.

- 1st: *Dactylorhiza incarnata*
by Ivar Edvinsen
Submitted by the Hardy Orchid Society.
- 2nd: *Dendrobium ochraceum*
by Stan Taylor
Submitted by the Solihull & District Orchid Society.
- 3rd: *Bulbophyllum comosum*
by Ray Tunnicliff
Submitted by the Central Orchid Society.

The Gallery for the competition for this year (2017) will open for uploading at the end of September.

Please remember that the Photographic Competition can be used to fill two winter meetings!



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2nd: *Dendrobium ochraceum*

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Submitted by the Solihull & District Orchid Society.

BOC Yearbook

The BOC Yearbook is being prepared for publication, and copies will be ready for the BOC Meeting on 5th November.

The deadline for request for free copies and additional copies is the 8th October. Please remember that the number of copies is 50 per society, with extras available at 50p per copy.

Contact : Chris Barker cjbandjb@ntlworld.com

BOC Speakers List

The updated list of Speakers is available on the BOC website, and this can be found under the "Services" menu.

Celia Wright is the coordinator for this, and she can be contacted at celia.boc@windmill.me.uk

Next BOC Congress

The date for the next Congress is 2nd - 4th November 2018, and it will be held at Writhlington School, Radstock, near Bath, Somerset BA3 3NQ. It will be called **The British Orchid Show**.

Simon Pugh-Jones reports as follows :-

The outline program is:

- Set up Thursday 1st Nov, Friday 2nd Nov,
- Preview Friday 2nd Nov,
- Show open to public 3rd and 4th November,
- Science Symposium Sat 3rd Nov.

We have an extra building available that also contains our large propagation laboratories and so space available for societies will be flexible. As in 2012 we will have a wide range of trade attending including all the UK trade, European regulars and possible South American/Asian.

We expect large numbers of the public (2000 visitors in 2012) There will be two lecture programs: A science Symposium on the Sunday with early careers scientists, researchers presenting their work – As well as delegates this will be sold as a separate ticket targeted at university students and others interested in conservation and orchid science. A public lecture program on Saturday and Sunday will focus on orchids, culture, hybridization etc.

Food will include a luxury buffet on preview evening, a grand Congress dinner on Saturday and a range of food options during the day on set up and show days.

Accommodation – I will again be circulating information on nearby hotels – We are fortunate to be near to the very attractive medieval town of Frome and Georgian City of Bath.

Newsletters – we will again be sending out monthly newsletters as information develops and online registration via paypal.



3rd: *Bulbophyllum comosum*

by Ray Tunnicliff

Submitted by the Central Orchid Society.

BOC Website

We need Volunteers to help test the new BOC website. A volunteer should have a mobile phone, notepad, tablet or Phablet capable of displaying the BOC website at <http://www.british-orchid-council.info/BOC2017> and be able to see the pages in both portrait and landscape modes. Testing requires that you can navigate through the site and note any problems or difficulties, and report back to me at ian.parsons@virgin.net.

Any comments and suggestions are welcomed. In order to become a Tester please email me with

- your details (Full Name as a minimum)
- and a list of your devices (Make, operating system and version, Browser name and version).

I shall email the Testers when I update aspects of the site when resolving problems, and ask for a response. You may expect to be asked to retest the website on several occasions!