

NORTH HAMPSHIRE ORCHID SOCIETY

OCTOBER 2011

NEWSLETTER



STENOGLOTTIS LONGIFOLIA

Gill Britnell

This month's topical news was kindly contributed by Tricia Garner. Just for once there will be useful information and decent photos. Many thanks Tricia.

OCTOBER MEETING

Mike Buckingham

Masdevallias

Last Sunday saw an excellent turnout and members enjoyed a somewhat informal meeting. Mike Buckingham had travelled from London to give us a talk about Masdevallias. We learned several interesting facts, including the description of the unusual flowers which revealed that what we see are the 3 sepals which are fused to form a cup or tubular shape. The lip and petals are so small that they are barely noticeable. Masdevallias are found from Southern Mexico to Southern Brazil, but predominantly in the Andean cloud forests of Ecuador and Peru - look out for them if you are visiting Macchu Picchu! Some are pollinated by insects, but others are pollinated by hummingbirds, which must be quite a sight. The fact that they are mostly cool growing - although a few prefer intermediate conditions - is of particular interest these days with the cost of heating.

Much of what Mike told us would apply to cool growing orchids of all kinds. He did emphasise that we should all practice zero tolerance of aphids as they carry yellow bean mosaic virus (YBMV) which is devastating to plants. Interestingly, it is one of the few viruses which is transmitted in this way and is not transmitted by the use of infected cutting tools, etc.

The display table showed a small but select group of orchids and places were awarded as follows:

1st Gill Britnell's *Stenoglottis longifolia*

2nd Jon Loose's *Phalaenopsis Nobby's Amy*

3rd Gill Britnell's *Phalaenopsis hybrid*

Smile

OTHER NEWS

Apologies for not being able to attend the meeting were received from Linda Phillips, Michael Moon and Ken and myself. Many thanks to all those who covered for our absence.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting at Oakley will be on Sunday 20th November. It has not been possible to book a speaker so Mike Clift and Tricia Garner are joining forces to put on a display of digital photos pertaining to several aspects of 'orchid mania'. This will also be the opportunity for the rest of us to bring along any items of interest, just so that there can be a general discussion or mutual admiration of our plants. *Please give Mike and Tricia your support by attending the meeting.*

The raffle will be held as usual so all donations gratefully received. Judging will go ahead as normal. Lawrence Gray is arranging to purchase some more supplies of compost and will make it available to members as soon as he is able.

Also I am hoping that you have read Tricia's e-mail regarding the BOC Photo Competition, which is going to be an annual event. Any photos that you wish to enter can be sent to Tricia [If Tricia can receive them soon they can be shown](#) at the next meeting.



PHALAENOPSIS NOBBY'S AMY
Jonathon Loose

The committee is hoping to update members on the possible holding of an annual show as soon as all the information has been collated.

Smile