

Carniflora News

February 2015

Welcome. This issue of *Carniflora News* provides a summary of the last meeting, happenings in the greenhouse and details of new events.

The Current Executive

The current executive is as follows:

President – Robert Gibson

Vice President & Secretary – Wesley Fairhall

Treasurer & Public Officer – Gareth Hambridge

Committee Member 1 – Terry Watts

Committee Member 2 – Glen Moss

Committee Member 3 – Kirk 'Fuzzy' Hirsch

Committee Member 4 – Marina Chong

Delayed start to renovations at Woodstock:

Planned renovations of the Woodstock Community Centre have been delayed until March 2015.

Check the ACPS Facebook page for updates:

https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Australasian-Carnivorous-Plant-Society/194049760656595?ref_type=bookmark



Upcoming ACPS events for the first half of 2015:

12th February 2015 **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM).**

Also — **Glen Moss**—presentation on travels in New Guinea & Malaysia

8th March 2015—**Laurie Dorfer** — Carnivorous Bromeliads

10th April 2015— Details to be announced

11-12th April 2015—**Collector's Plant Fair, Clarendon**

13th April 2015—**Plant Competition at the Royal Easter Show**

8th May 2015—**Details to be announced**

May 2015—**Koi Pet and Garden Show , Fairfield** - further details provided when available

12th June 2015—**Details to be announced**

The next meeting is on **Friday 12th February 2015, which is also the AGM.** Please bring plants for show or sale, or both.

Please give consideration to presenting a talk, a demonstration, or showing a selection of your favourite photos at one of the forthcoming meetings.

The society's general email address is auscps@gmail.com

The Society has a new blog site:

<https://auscps.wordpress.com/>

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON 12th FEBRUARY

The meeting of 12th February Is the Annual General Meeting when all positions of the current executive are made vacant. Please consider nominating for one of the positions. This is a Society run by, and on behalf of volunteers. If everyone was able to chip in and donate a little time to help with various tasks it would make a big difference; there are other people able to provide guidance, if required. Please give this some reflection. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Request for a member to present a talk on Carnivorous Plants at Wentworth Falls

Janette Emmerson attended the Plants With Bite Fair and asked if anyone from the Society is interested and available to give a talk to a social group at Wentworth Falls. This group is interested in after dinner speakers (6-9 p.m.). It would be a great opportunity to let more people know about the plants that fascinate us. Janette can be reached on janette21@tpg.com.au

Summary of 8th of January Meeting:

The January meeting was a quiet occasion but those who attended were treated to a talk by Kirk 'Fuzzy' Hirsch on growing wet-growing species of *Utricularia*, i.e. those that grow fully suspended in water, and those from sodden wetlands. Hints were given on how to control algae for these plants in cultivation; including the use of old tea leaves that add tannins and to help acidify water.

Ron and Marie brought in some lovely *Nepenthes* and *Drosera* plants for sale.

The 'Plant of the Month' competition was a contest between some of the *Utricularia* brought in for the talk, a lovely pot of red-leaved *Drosera filiformis*, and plant of *Nepenthes maxima* 'Wavy Leaf' form in scape and a large plant of *N. maxima* 'dark' x *trusmadiensis*. The winner was *Nepenthes maxima* 'dark' x *trusmadiensis* (see page 3).

Utricularia sandersonii



Kirk delivering his talk.

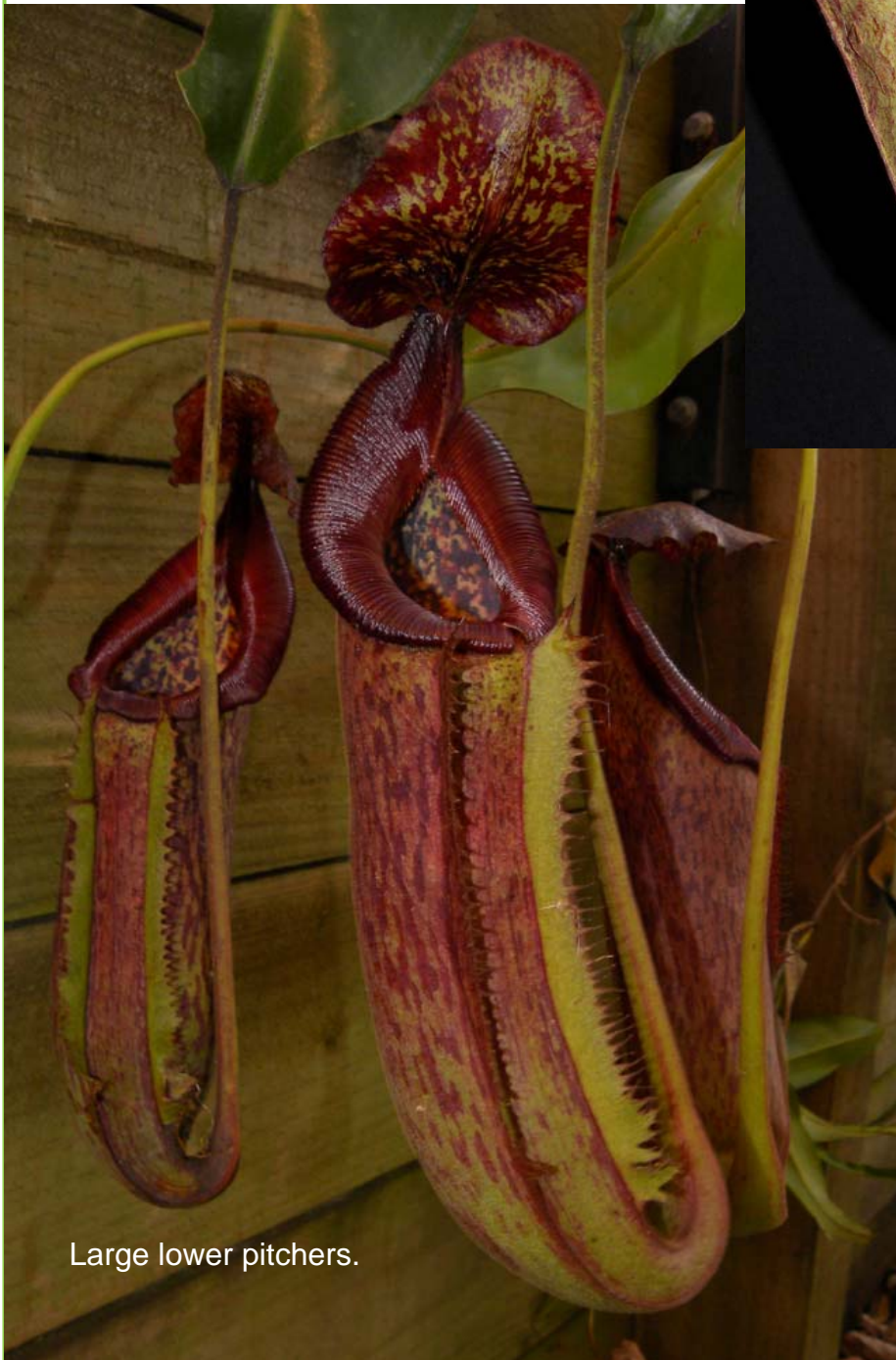


Growing *Nepenthes maxima* 'dark' x *trusmadiensis*

Nepenthes maxima 'dark' x *trusmadiensis* is a cross made by Phill Mann using a lovely large and colourful form of *N. maxima* and his famous large *N. x trusmadiensis* (the natural hybrid between *N. lowii* and *N. macrophylla*) plant. This specimen has been growing in Newcastle for about 10 years.

It is grown in a hanging pot about 30 cm diameter in a mix of orchid bark and perlite and grown outdoors on south-facing wooden lattice wall where it receives between about half an hour to 2 hours of direct sunlight during the year – depending on the angle of the sun. The plant is watered several times a

Upper pitcher



Large lower pitchers.

week and grows amongst other *Nepenthes* plants, to ensure that the environment is kept humid.

The impressive cylindrical lower pitchers grow to about 25 cm long and 7 cm diameter, with a broad dark red peristome. The upper pitchers are narrowly obconic, and up to 19 cm tall by 9 cm across. However, stems are cut periodically to maintain a more compact plant that has less need of repotting. This also means that the plant predominantly produces only the large and colourful lower pitchers. Cut stem sections are used for propagation by stem cuttings.

IUCN Carnivorous Plant Specialist Group

During the 10th International Carnivorous Plant Society Conference in Cairns, Rob Cantley officially launched the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Carnivorous Plant Specialist Group [<http://www.iucn-cpsg.org/>]. This group serves to preserve and study carnivorous plants in the wild. The work of this new group is to provide accurate and current Red List assessments for all carnivorous plants. The results of which will inform conservation efforts so they target the most threatened species. Everyone is welcome to contribute, whether by joining as a General Member or as a Specialist Member for a group of plants to help with this assessment work. I encourage everyone to get involved, for we all have a part to play in this effort to preserve the plants that fascinate us.

Forthcoming Events:

Sunday 5th April 2015 – Carnivorous Plant Competition at the Royal Easter Show, Sydney.

Registration for the **2015 Sydney Royal Flower & Garden Show** closes on 11 March 2015. See <http://www.sydneyroyal.com.au/FlowerGarden.htm> for more details and copies of the entry form and rules.

Tech 2U [<http://www.tech2u.com.au>] are again sponsoring the carnivorous plant completion at the Royal Easter Show. Thank you Tech 2U

TECH 2U
Internet Services

About TECH 2U Pty Limited

Utricularia uliginosa

TECH 2U Pty Limited is a technical company.

Founded in 1995 TECH 2U Pty Limited was based on a single source company supplying home users, small and medium sized businesses with the same level of system support that was available to large companies through their in house computer and information technology departments.

Today TECH 2U supplies

- new and second hand computers,
- technical support and computer repair / maintenance at our office or yours,
- dial up and broadband (adsl and wireless) internet access,
- domain name and website hosting
- web site creation and search engine optimisation,
- server colocation, and
- computer training

TECH 2U Pty Limited is 100% Australian owned and operated.

TECH 2U Pty Limited is based in Gordon, Sydney, Australia.



11th-12th April, 2015 – Collector's Plant Fair, Clarendon: www.collectorsplantfair.com

The Collector's Plant Fair is a wonderful event to sell surplus plants, and perhaps buy some new treasures for your collection. Please consider providing plants for sale (20% of the sale price goes to the Society as commission), and donating some time to help keep the stall staffed during this weekend. A roster will be circulated shortly to coordinate all volunteers.

May 2015, Koi Pet and Garden Show, Fairfield Showground

The Koi Pet and Garden Show will likely be held in May at the Fairfield Showground. This is an excellent venue to sell plants and let members of the public know how great carnivorous plants are. More details will be available soon from this Society and also from the Koi Society of Australia webpage at <http://ksakoi.com/home/>

January In the Greenhouse:

Hot and humid weather continued through much of January which ensured that *Nepenthes* plants continued to look great, with old pitchers lasting well and new pitchers being produced. Mature plants were also more likely to flower under these conditions too.

Sarracenia look good, but remember to keep the water up to them – these plants produce only a few leaves each season and the one day when the pot dries out and the pitchers wither, or become sunburnt, or both will show on the plant for the rest of the season.

Many Mexican *Pinguicula* are in full growth with several in flower. Leaf cuttings taken in Spring are now producing plantlets. Aquatic carnivorous plants are growing rapidly in response to the long days and warm water temperatures.

Dionaea scapes now have ripe seed. Seed can be planted immediately, and germinate in a few weeks. Or seed can be collected and donated to the Society seed bank for sowing in Spring.

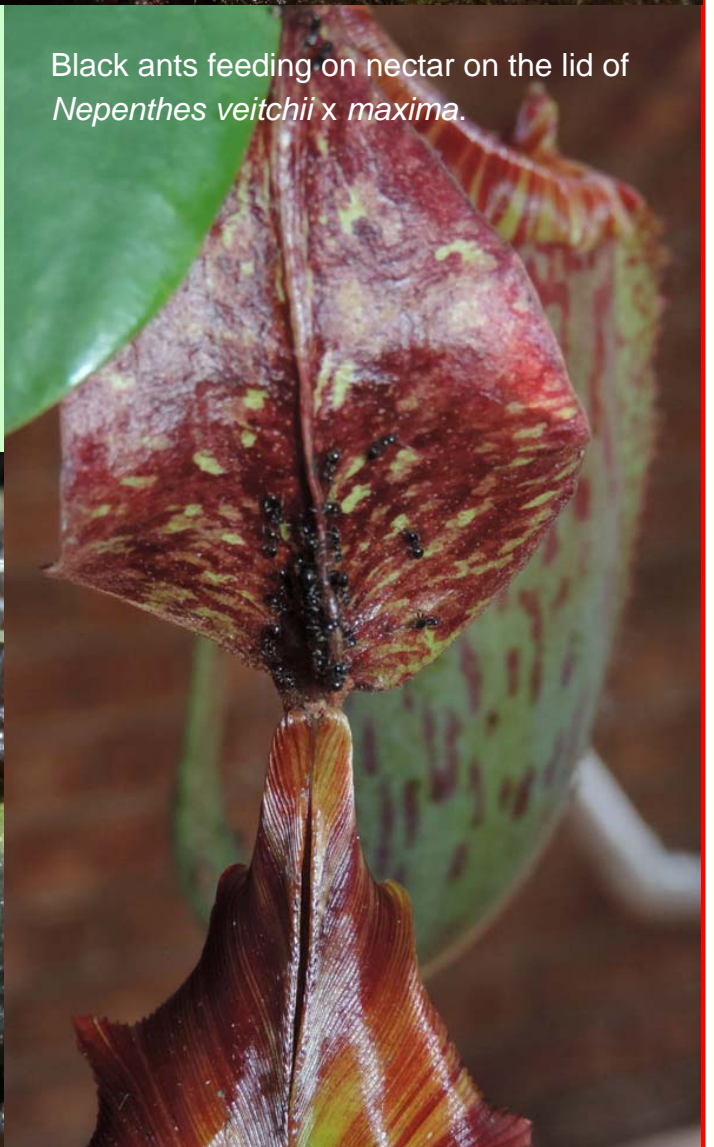
Drosera binata forms continue to flower, and fertile plants, or your own crosses will now be generating new seed. Seed of evergreen sundews will continue to germinate in seed trays.

And finally, the days are long which means that even during the working week it is still possible to get out into the greenhouse before and after work to enjoy seeing the plant collection.

Pinguicula cyclosecta leaf cutting with plantlet.



Black ants feeding on nectar on the lid of *Nepenthes veitchii* x *maxima*.



Drosera seedlings.



Update on the Redfern Natural History KickStarter project

I hope that you are all well and have had a very nice start to 2015.

I just wanted to write to sincerely thank each and every one of you who have supported my KickStart campaign: <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1352171326/britains-overseas-wildlife>

It is absolutely a dream come true that the target total has been reached to create the 16 mini-documentaries, and I plan to get to work in February to create these beautiful short films.

Thank you for believing in these, and supporting this project financially.

As you may know, these mini-documentaries are a key facet to my project to raise awareness of the wildlife of the United Kingdom Overseas Territories (UKOT), and are absolutely crucial to creating a higher profile of the territories.

I just wanted to provide an update concerning recent progress of my project, in case this is of interest:

1. On January 9th, I held a Round Table Meeting, which was extremely successful. The point of the meeting was to invite together all major UK conservation groups active across the territories, all UKOT government reps, representatives of the UK Government and Foreign Office to provide an overview of the project, and the ways in which I hope it can help support the conservation work being undertaken across the territories. Approximately 40 people attended, and many very useful ideas were exchanged. Many of the organisations that attended confirmed that they wanted to use the mini-documentaries on their websites, Facebook, twitter etc., and so the mini-documentaries that you helped complete will certainly of out to an audience of many millions of people!

2. My aim now is to start work on the mini-documentaries over February and March, and send you (as backers) links to review and comment on the films over April, to finalise them hopefully by mid-May.

3. I have bought a website (www.BritainsTreasureIslands.com) and will finalise this for mid-May to launch the sites by late May or certainly the beginning of June.

4. While it is wonderful news that the KickStarter campaign has succeeded, and I can definitely make the 16 mini documentaries (one for each territory), one of the key suggestions that came across during the Round Table meeting was that many parties (especially the conservation NGOs) would like other short films for



online-broadcast that bridge the wildlife of all of the territories. For example, films about the collective wildlife of the territories broken into systematic groups, such as the bird-life, the reptile life, the arthropod life, the plant life and the marine life. I am keen to do this as I think these would be lovely additions to make. I'd need to employ an editor for another 6 weeks, and a producer for a few weeks also and so need to raise about £4,000 or £5,000 extra. So, if you know anyone who might be interested, who has not yet pledged, and if you can give any final push for the KickStarter campaign to see if it is possible to raise this last bit of funding, it would be terrific.

5. I gave a lecture in Bristol on January 7th to provide an overview of the incredible wildlife of the UK Overseas Territories, and some of my stories of my experiences of having the pleasure with working with so many inspiring conservationists across the territories. Here is a link to the lecture, should this be of interest, and should you wish to watch it: <https://vimeo.com/116526453>

6. My last point concerns the premier of the broadcast documentary series. I hope to organise a premier in London to coincide with when the documentary series is broadcast. Although we do not yet have a broadcast date, I suspect it may be in August or September. I have had preliminary contact with Clarence House to investigate the possibility of whether a Royal Family member might consider attending. The contact I have at Clarence House has kindly said that she will put the idea to Prince Charles, but warned that his Highness does have a schedule fixed at least 6 months in advance, and may, or may not be able to attend. I will keep you informed of all developments. Needless to say, if such an event were to happen, all of you would be warmly invited as guests of honour, should you happen to be in the UK at the time of the premier.

Well, thank you all once more for all of your kind help in making this project possible and supporting the KickStarter campaign. I sincerely, sincerely appreciate it.

Thanks so much!

Kind regards,

Stewart

Redfern Natural History Productions

<http://www.redfernnaturalhistory.com/>



AUSTRALASIAN CARNIVOROUS PLANT SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Australasian Carnivorous Plant Society is a non-profit organisation formed in December 2002 to promote the cultivation, conservation and knowledge about carnivorous plants.

Our society webpage is <http://www.auscps.com/> which includes details monthly meetings and includes an on-line forum and has a wealth of photos. The society now has a dedicated email address: auscps@gmail.com

We are also on FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Australasian-Carnivorous-Plant-Society/194049760656595> & have a blog site at <https://auscps.wordpress.com/>

To join or renew your membership please complete the form below and return it to:

Membership Secretary

Australasian Carnivorous Plant Society

PO Box 4009

Kingsway West NSW 2208 AUSTRALIA

Direct Deposit Payment is available:

Australasian Carnivorous Plant Society Inc.

BSB No.112879

A/c No .195074412

Please notify the society if you pay this way.

AUSTRALASIAN CARNIVOROUS PLANT SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership Type: New ☐ Renewal ☐ Individual (\$25 per year) ☐

Membership Period: 1 year ☐ 2 years ☐ 3 years ☐ 4 years ☐ 5 years ☐

Name:

Postal Address:

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SUBURB.....POST CODE.....STATE.....COUNTRY.....

PHONE NUMBER:.....EMAIL ADDRESS:.....

I wish to receive information from the society by post: Yes ☐ / No ☐

Payment Type: Cash ☐ Direct Debit ☐ (details provided above)*

Cheque ☐ (made payable to the Australasian Carnivorous Plant Society)

Other ☐ please specify).....

SIGNED:**DATE:**

The Society's financial year is the Calendar year. **Membership for 2015 is now due.**

*If paying by Direct Deposit please provide a copy of the payment transfer receipt..