

Carniflora News

March 2015

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

The New Executive

The new executive is as follows:

President & Public Officer – Wesley Fairhall

Vice President – Robert Gibson

Treasurer, Secretary & Publicity Officer

– Kirk ‘Fuzzy’ Hirsch

Committee Member 1 – Terry Watts

Committee Member 2 – Glen Moss

Committee Member 3 – Marina Chong

Committee Member 4 – David Colbourn

Thank you Gareth for your contribution to the Society in your role as Treasurer and as a general member. Thanks also to all those on the new executive.

Renovations at Woodstock — May - June 2015:

Renovations of the Woodstock Community Centre are planned now to start in May, thus the March and April meetings will be held at Woodstock. Check the ACPS

Facebook page for updates:

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

Upcoming ACPS events for 2015:

13th March 2015—**Laurie Dorfer** — Carnivorous Bromeliads

10th April 2015— Details to be announced

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

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

8th May 2015—**David Colbourn, Pygmy Sundews**

17th May 2015—**Koi Pet and Garden Show , Fairfield**

12th June 2015—**Photo competition**

10th July 2015—**Details to be announced**

14th August 2015—**Details to be announced**

11th September 2015—**Details to be announced**

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's new blog site is:

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



Summary of February Meeting:

The February meeting was well-attended with many plants for sale and show. Ron and Marie Gauci provided a summary of the talk they gave at a recent function for the Revesby Workers' Garden Club, and future events where Society members have been invited to talk about carnivorous plants (see below). Progress has been made to reactivate the Society's PayPal account, but some more documentation is required. Thanks Terry and Wesley for following this up.

Philippe Reyter has volunteered to give a talk in May at Wentworth Falls at the social group run by Janette Emmerson. Thanks Philippe.

Draft versions of the late issues of *Carniflora Australis* were brought in to show those in attendance. It has taken a while to catch-up on these issues, but they will be finalized soon and made available.

Glen Moss gave a fascinating talk on his recent trip to Malaysia and the Philippines to see some of the giants in the genus *Nepenthes* and some associated species. Glen had many lovely photos of different species encountered and many anecdotal stories behind the images. Thanks Glen.

The general meeting of 12th June will include a photo exhibition. Please start putting aside copies of your best photos now for this event. Another desired outcome from this will be the selection of photos for the planned calendar for 2016 that the Society plans to put together. So get out there and keep taking photos of these wonderful plants.

Revesby Workers' Garden Club talk on 7th February

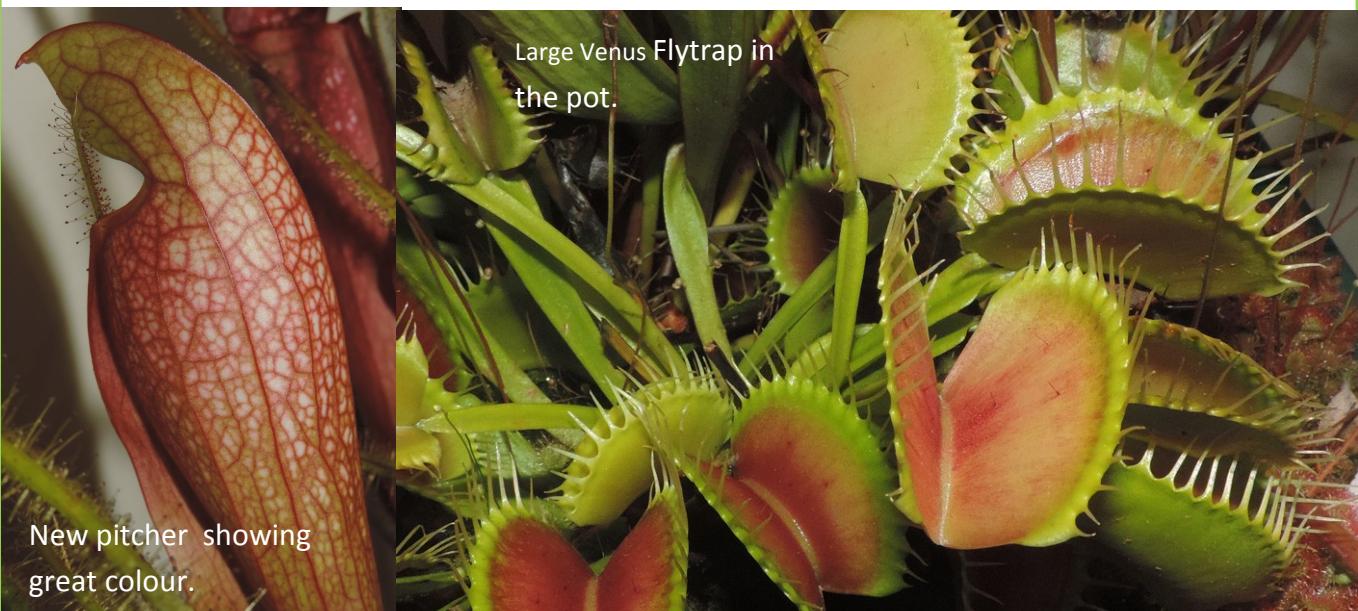
Ron and Marie gave a talk to about 50 attendees that focused on three main carnivorous plant groups: Sundews (*Drosera capensis*, *D. filiformis* and *D. binata*), North American Pitcher Plants (*Sarracenia*) and Climbing Pitcher Plants (*Nepenthes*: both highland and lowland). Sale plants were brought along, many of which found new homes. Ron and Marie have been invited to attend the Club again on 17th March 2015 and also the Bankstown Garden Club on 6th October 2015. Thanks Ron and Marie.

The 'Plant of the Month' competition was a lively competition thanks to the number and diversity of plants brought in, which included *Brocchinia reducta*, *Catopsis berteroiana*, *Darlingtonia californica*, *Dionaea 'Shark Tooth'*, *Drosera binata*, *D. lunata*, *Genlisea hispidula*, *Nepenthes 'Mardi Gras'*, *N. 'Red Rocket'*, *Pinguicula 'Hawkesbury'*, *Sarracenia leucophylla* hybrid, and *Sarracenia* unknown hybrid. In a close contest with *N. 'Mardi Gras'* (= *N. maxima* x *trusmadiensis*) and the miniature bog garden containing an unknown *Sarracenia* grown by Ron and Marie Gauci, the bog garden was declared the winner (see below). Well done Ron and Marie.



Plant of the Month - *Sarracenia* hybrid

Ron and Marie bought a small plant of an attractive *Sarracenia* hybrid from a newly opened hardware store about five years ago. The plant has erect pitchers that develop rich red colouration with white fenestrations, due to perhaps *S. leucophylla* or *S. psittacina* in the mix. The plant was potted up into pure sphagnum peat moss in a large rectangular pot which sits outside in suburban Sydney in about 30-50 mm of water and is exposed to full sunlight. The pot also contains a large Venus Flytrap, mature plants of *Drosera binata* var. *dichotoma* 'Giant Type', *D. binata* 'T-form' and *D. spatulata*. Overall it is an impressive planting.



Sarracenia hybrid with
Drosera and *Dionaea*.

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 11th 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>] is again sponsoring the carnivorous plant completion at the Royal Easter Show. Thank you Tech 2U



About TECH 2U Pty Limited

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 – Collectors' Plant Fair, Clarendon — <http://www.collectorsplantfair.com/>

Volunteers are needed. Brings plants for sale too. See page 7 for more details.

Sunday 17th May 2015, Koi Pet and Garden Show, Fairfield Showground

The next Koi Pet and Garden Show will once again 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 are carnivorous plants. The date of this event is Sunday 17th May. Please consider volunteering some time, and bringing some plants to sell. A roster is available on page 7. So far there does not appear to be a dedicated website for this event yet.

February in the Greenhouse:

Hot and humid weather has continued into the latter part of summer, which has been great for most plants and also lots of mosquitoes. At least some of the latter end up feeding plants here.

The final flush of *Sarracenia leucophylla* leaves has started, and these are often the largest produced in the year. Other species, like *S. oreophila* now already look ratty as the spring pitchers continue to die down and instead have a canopy of curved phyllodia. It is time to give the old *Sarracenia* flowers a closer look to see how many were pollinated in spring and thus consider what to do with any seed produced. Donations of spare seed to the Society's seed bank are welcome.

Aldrovanda continue to grow well although this year plants have struggled here. There has been talk of '*Aldrovanda* disease' in cultivation and hopefully it is not responsible. It is worth splitting a collection into multiple containers, and possibly even storing some turions in the fridge over winter. It is often useful to have a small back-up collection kept near the main plants; twice now such plants have ensured that the collection here has not fully died out.

Many tuberous *Drosera* are now starting to grow. This includes the locally native *D. lunata* which can grow to flowering in about four weeks once dormancy has broken, and this species

tends to grow in summer and early autumn. Some of the tall climbing species from Western Australia, particularly *D. erythrogynne* and members of the *D. macrantha* complex are already sending-up stems in stored pots that have a bone-dry mix. Now is the time to be vigilant of your tuberous *Drosera* collection – start to give the pots a light water



Sarracenia leucophylla



Aldrovanda



Sarracenia oreophila now has a crop of phyllodia and no active pitchers.



Drosera lunata —a locally native, summer-growing tuberous Sundew.

to help 'wake-up' the plants, and also move pots with above-ground growth into a protected but well-lit position and start to hydrate the mix. Remember that if the primary growing point of most tuberous *Drosera* is damaged the side shoots that take over may not flower, or at best produce fewer flowers. It is also the time to plant out any newly-obtained tubers and to repot and divide tubers in existing pots; if necessary.

The next crop of *Cephalotus* pitchers is now opening and plants look really good at present.



Sarracenia fruit

Emerging *Drosera erythrogynne* stems.



Cephalotus follicularis

ROSTER for Collectors' Plant Fair, Clarendon — 11th-12th April, 2015.

Volunteers are required to help run the stall over the weekend of this event. Please bring plants for sale. More details about the event are available at www.collectorsplantfair.com.

Sorry, but the Society is unable to cover the entrance fee for this event for volunteers (\$12 on Saturday and \$10 on Sunday—it is possible to buy your entrance ticket in advance for a discount).

This event immediately follows the general meeting in April.

Date	Activities
Saturday 11th April 8 a.m.—4 p.m.	Volunteers are needed to run the stall; to help with plant sales; and to help answer questions and let visitors to the event know more about the plants we love to grow. Members are also encouraged to bring plants to sell—for this event the Society is charging a 20% commission to cover costs.
Sunday 12th April 9 a.m.—4 p.m.	Volunteers are needed to run the stall; to help with plant sales; and to help answer questions and let visitors to the event know more about the plants we love to grow. Members are also encouraged to bring plants to sell—for this event the Society is charging a 20% commission to cover costs.

Drosera binata
flower



ROSTER for Koi Pet and Garden Show, Fairfield Showground — Sunday 17th May 2015.

Volunteers are required to help run the stall for this one day event. Please bring plants for sale. Some details of this event are available:

<http://www.fairfieldshowground.com.au/index.php/major-events.html>

More information, such as the time period of the event, will be passed once they are known. Entry to the event is free.

Date	Activities
Sunday 17th May 9 a.m.—4 p.m.	Volunteers are needed to run the stall; to help with plant sales; and to help answer questions and let visitors to the event know more about the plants we love to grow. Members are also encouraged to bring plants to sell—for this event the Society is charging a 15% commission on plant sales.

Wild Papua 2015

A Biological Tour of Western New Guinea

This 17-day exploration will take us across some of the most pristine and remarkable wild areas of the world's largest tropical island.

Dates: 2 – 18 August 2015

Maximum group: 10 people

Fitness level: moderate (no camping required)

Trip cost: USD \$3950 per person (twin-share)

Start Point: Sentani International Airport, Jayapura

End Point: Sorong

A visit to New Guinea offers one of the last chances to glimpse a passing world, which until relatively recently remained untarnished from the touch of western society. The vast unexplored forests, swamps, and mountain ranges remain to this day one of the few places on earth that can still be described as truly wild. For the naturalist, any trip into the interior offers the excitement of adventure, coupled with the promise of encounters with the incredible diversity of flora and fauna and traditional cultures.

At over 792,000 square kilometers, New Guinea is the world's largest tropical island. Biologically, much of the island (particularly Indonesian Papua) remains incompletely explored, although it is known to be exceedingly rich in species: over 600 species of birds (including most of the Birds of Paradise), an estimated 400+ species of amphibians, 125 mammals (including tree kangaroos and echidnas), and an astonishing 20,000 species of plants (including an estimated 3000 species of orchids).

With an itinerary specifically tailored for the naturalist, biologist, botanist, birdwatcher, or nature photographer, this trip takes participants through a kaleidoscope of natural habitats across the island to showcase its incredible biodiversity.

The tour is led by naturalist and wildlife photographer Ch'ien C. Lee, who has explored all corners of Papua over the past 13 years.

For more information about the trip please send an email to: mail@wildborneo.com.my.



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Day 0 (2 Aug): Orientation

The tour will begin with an orientation dinner at our hotel in Sentani.

Day 1 (3 Aug): Tanjung Tanamerah

We will spend half the day exploring the rugged coastline west of the Cyclops Mountains where red ultramafic earth meets a coral-filled bay. This unusual landscape is home to a variety of remarkable plants including the endemic pitcher plant *Nepenthes neoguineensis*. Following lunch we will head south to the inland village of Nimbokrang where we will take up residence at a local homestay. At night, a venture into the lowland forest will reveal a variety of nocturnal animals and insects.



Day 2 (4 Aug): Nimbokrang

Rising before dawn, we will head into the forest with our local guide to witness the morning displays of several birds of paradise, including the Twelve-wired BoP (*Seleucidis melanoleucus*) and King BoP (*Cicinnurus regius*). Trekking through the forest here yields many other colorful endemic birds, including a possible encounter with a Northern Cassowary (*Casuarius unappendiculatus*), and interesting native flora. We return to Sentani in the evening.



Days 3-5 (5-7 Aug): Snorkeling with Whale Sharks

After flying to the coastal town of Nabire we will board a boat to a nearby peninsula in Cenderwasih Bay famous for the abundance of Whale Sharks (*Rhincodon typus*) found in the vicinity. Participants will have opportunities to snorkel alongside these gargantuan fish in the crystal clear waters, as well as view birds and other wildlife such as the Spotted Cuscus (*Spilocuscus maculatus*). Our lodge is located on a pristine isolated beach with a virgin forest backdrop.



Day 6 (8 Aug): Mount Gamei

Our day will be spent exploring the flora and fauna of Gunung Gamei, located to the south of Nabire. The hills here are rich with pitcher plants, orchids, ant plants, and many other unusual endemic species.



Day 7 (9 Aug): Biak Island

Following an early morning flight to Biak, we will transfer to vehicles and head out to limestone outcrops located on the eastern side of the island where a number of native plants can be found, including the pitcher plant *Nepenthes insignis*. A night hike in the evening will take us to view swarms of fireflies and brightly glowing fungi.



Days 8-12 (10-14 Aug): Arfak Mountains and Anggi Lakes

Flying to the coastal town of Manokwari we will proceed by chartered vehicles to a highland village nestled in the cool forested slopes of the Arfak Mountains. Here we will spend several days on the nearby trails exploring the area's rich biodiversity. Several species of birds of paradise can be found here, including Magnificent Bird of Paradise (*Cicinnurus magnificus*) and Western Parotia (*Parotia sefilata*), and we will witness the elaborate courtship displays of these at close range from the confines of concealed hides. Our hikes will also take us to view the incredible artistic constructions of the Vogelkop Bowerbird (*Amblyornis inornata*), perhaps one of New Guinea's most remarkable species, which build enormous twig domes decorated with delicately arranged piles of colorful ornaments. Night hikes in the area will reveal abundant tree frogs and arboreal marsupials including several species of cuscus. One of our day hikes will take us up through upper montane mossy forest to view abundant orchids, pitcher plants, and ant plants. On our last day we will drive to the nearby Anggi Lakes, which at 2000m present stunning montane scenery. Here we will botanize around the shores, enjoying the diversity of rhododendrons, orchids, and a great variety of pitcher plant (*N. maxima*) forms.



Days 13-16 (15-18 Aug): Raja Ampat Islands

Departing from Sorong, our private boats will take us on a journey into the northern portion of the Raja Ampat archipelago. This corner of the Coral Triangle is renowned for its incredible marine diversity has become a mecca for scuba diving and snorkeling enthusiasts. The clarity of the glass-like water is nearly incomparable. Our first stop will be on Waigeo Island, home to one of the most bizarre of all birds: the insect-like Wilson's Bird of Paradise (*Cicinnurus respublica*). Another species, the endemic Red Bird of Paradise (*Paradisaea rubra*), can also be seen here performing its treetop acrobatic displays. Later we will transfer to Urai Island located within the picturesque Kabiu Bay, where a bout tour will takes us on an exploration around the hundreds of limestone islands littering the coastline.

Day 17 (19 Aug): Departure

Following our return to Sorong, the tour finishes following breakfast at our hotel. Participants may wish to extend their stay to explore other areas in Raja Ampat or elsewhere in Papua.

Registration:

http://www.wildborneo.com.my/reg_wp15.php

For further information please inquire at mail@wildborneo.com.my.



Photos (all © Ch'ien C. Lee). **Page 1:** title - King Bird of Paradise (*Cicinnurus regius*), insert top left - Wani man, insert top right - *Nepenthes maxima*, insert bottom - trekking in the mountainous interior. **Page 2:** (from top to bottom) *Nepenthes insignis* (mainland form), Whale Shark (*Rhincodon typus*), Green Tree Python (*Morelia viridis*), Western Parotia (*Parotia sefilata*), ant plant (*Myrmecodia* sp.), Rhododendron-mimicking orchid (*Dendrobium cuthbertsonii*). **Page 3:** (from top to bottom) Spotted Cuscus (*Spilocuscus maculatus*), display of Vogelkop Bowerbird (*Amblyornis inornata*), Cassowary, Raja Ampat islands.