

In 1987 Walter Upton and Murray Corrigan (President) recruited Dr. Noel Grundon as Editor of *The Orchadian*, supported by eight invited Editorial Associates they engaged from various regions of Australia, New Guinea and New Zealand. Wal wrote to these volunteers requesting articles and stating 'we must keep a balance between horticultural, general interest and botanical content... to cater for all members'. That is still the goal, with the content dependent on contributions received. If you consider that certain areas are under-represented then write on them or organise someone else to contribute.

If Wal Upton meant 'scientific' when writing of 'botanical content', then the past two years has seen only a small amount of science, in only

*Dendrobium bigibbum* plants were collected in north Queensland and the Torres Strait in the late 19th C and early 20th C, and later described and illustrated in English gardening magazines when they flowered. They were new to the horticultural world, and with more exploration it was inevitable that the understanding and classification of them would change over a long period.

Callyn Farrell modified his cultural techniques in Newcastle and reports an improvement in flowering results for *D. bigibbum* and its hybrids, which can be difficult to grow well in more southerly locations.

Trevor Porteous is not discouraged by species that flower for a brief period, and has ten species that flowered recently. For him, one day is enough!



*D. bigibbum* var. *schoederianum* (illustrated as *D. phalaenopsis* Fitzg.) in Cogniaux and Goosens, *Dictionnaire Iconographique des Orchidées, Dendrobium*, vol. 5 t.4 (1896-1907).

a few articles. In this issue, on request, I have summarized the published new classification of the *Dendrobium bigibbum* complex, which has much relevance to the international horticultural world, hybridists and general growers. *Dendrobium bigibbum* is involved in more than half of the over 13,000 registered *Dendrobium* hybrids. The new classification has been accepted by the World Checklist of Selected Plant Families and the Royal Horticultural Society Orchid Hybrid Registration registrar.

A little effort may be required to follow the results and evidence for the changes, similar to the article on the *Dendrobium speciosum* complex (*The Orchadian* 15:5 Sept. 2006). Many of the

Kevin McFarlane succeeded with *Dendrobium* intersectional hybrids between sects. *Dendrocoryne* and *Spatulata* e.g. *D. Australian Beauty* (made in 1973) and *D. Our Native* (registered 1977). Roslyn Capell reviews these warmer growing plants, with some recent flowering examples, including *D. Golden King*.

David Butler records his highlights and disappointments with some colourful intergeneric *Aeridinae* hybrids.

*Correction The Orchadian* 19:2 p. 57. The unflowered plants in Figure 6 are *Chiloglottis reflexa*, with two leaves, not *Pyrorchis nigricans*, which has a single leaf. *Peter Adams*