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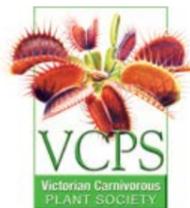
Victorian Carnivorous PLANT SOCIETY INC.

MARCH 2021

VCPS Newsletter No. 12



Nepenthes burbidgeae



Victorian Carnivorous PLANT SOCIETY INC.

Newsletter No. 12

March 2021

Office Bearers: July 2020 – June 2021

| | |
|--|--|
| President | Stephen Fretwell – Tel: (03) 8786 8409 email: stevefretwell24@gmail.com |
| Vice President | Sean Spence – Tel: (03) 9743 5809 email: spence06@bigpond.com |
| General/Member Secretary | Peter Bloem – Tel: (03) 9744 2265 email: pbloem@bigpond.net.au |
| Minutes Secretary | Andrew Gibbons email: agibbons@unimelb.edu.au |
| Journal Editor | David Petch email: davidpetch@optusnet.com.au |
| Art Director | Stephen Fretwell – Tel: (03) 8786 8409 email: stevefretwell24@gmail.com |
| Internet Co-ordinator | Andrew Gibbons email: agibbons@unimelb.edu.au |
| Treasurer | Ken Neal – Tel: 0424 567 095 email: ken.neal255@gmail.com |
| Librarian | Peter Nisbet – Tel: (03) 9570 5401 |
| Seedbank Administrator | Ron Abernethy – Tel: (03) 9879 0908 email: rab31451@bigpond.net.au |
| Other Publications & Journal distributor | Brendan Bok email: brendanb1212@yahoo.com.au |
| Hardware Co-ordinator | Andre Cleghorn – Tel: (03) 9584 2087 email: andre@alphalink.com.au |
| Event Co-ordinators | Stephen Fretwell – Tel: (03) 8786 8409 email: stevefretwell24@gmail.com |
| Open Day Liaison Officer | Stephen Fretwell – Tel: (03) 8786 8409 email: stevefretwell24@gmail.com Julian Weston – 0413 041 547 email: julianweston1@optusnet.com.au |
| Field Trips Organiser | Sean Spence – Tel: (03) 9743 5809 email: spence06@bigpond.com |
| Sales Administrator | Ron Abernethy – Tel: (03) 9879 0908 email: rab31451@bigpond.net.au |



MEETING TOPICS & DATES for 2021 VICTORIAN CARNIVOROUS PLANT SOCIETY

This year we have scheduled the following discussion topics, and events:

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|--|
| January | (TBA) | New Year BBQ <i>Dionaea muscipula</i> (VFT). (Contact for details) |
| February | (20-21) | VCPS Annual show at Collectors Corner (Postponed 2020 show). |
| March | (24th) | <i>Sarracenia</i> , <i>Dionaea</i> (VFT), beginners info |
| April | (28th) | <i>Nepenthes</i> , <i>Heliamphora</i> , <i>Drosera</i> and information night. |
| May | (26th) | Growing conditions, 'Best' and 'Worst' plants, pygmy <i>Drosera gemmae</i> swap |
| June | (23rd) | AGM, plant give-away, any CPs. |
| July | (28th) | Rosetted tuberous <i>Drosera</i> judging, Propagation – seed growing, tissue culture, division and cuttings. Potting demonstration. |
| August | (25th) | Upright tuberous/Winter growing <i>Drosera</i> , show preparation, displays, and companion planting. |
| September | (22nd) | <i>Cephalotus</i> , <i>Brocchinia</i> , <i>Catopsis</i> and swap night. |
| October | (27th) | <i>Byblis</i> , pygmy <i>Drosera</i> , <i>Drosera binata</i> , <i>Drosophyllum</i> , <i>Genlisea</i> , <i>Pinguicula</i> , <i>Roridula</i> , <i>Utricularia</i> . |
| November | (TBA) | Triffid Park Open Day (10am-4pm) |
| December | (TBA) | VCPS Annual show at Collectors Corner. |

Please note: All meetings, other than those where a specific venue is given, will be on the FOURTH WEDNESDAY of the month in the hall of the Pilgrim Uniting Church in Yarraville – corner Bayview Road and Montague Street, Melway Map Reference 41K7.

Contents



Roridula gorgonias.

Photographed by Stephen Fretwell

VCPS Growers photos

If you'd like to publish a photo that you took of your plant in the VCPS journal. Please email it to Stephen Fretwell the VCPS editor at: stevefretwell24@gmail.com

VCPS News

- Free VCPS memberships for 2020 **5**

Better late than never

VCPS 2020/21 Annual show **6**

Selling plants in Covid-19 lockdown **16**

Seed Bank

We now have a huge collection of NEW fresh CP seed available, and our seed list has become quite extensive.

With over 250 varieties of CP's, we are now providing the list in PDF format on our website, www.vcps.org

For inquiries or to order seeds, please contact the VCPS Seedbank Officer.

The articles that are found within are copyright but can be copied freely if the author and source are acknowledged. The views are of the authors and are open to review and debate. Please send all material to the editor for consideration to be included in our quarterly journal.



FRONT COVER:

Nepenthes burbidgeae, VCPS 2020/21 Grand Champion. This species is endemic to Sabah, Borneo.

Photos: Stephen Fretwell

BACK COVER:

Clockwise from top left:

- *D. muscipula* 'South West Giant', VCPS 2021 show.
- *Utricularia alpina* 'Pittier Moon', VCPS 2021 show.
- *Drosera curviscapa*, VCPS 2021 show.
- *Nepenthes truncata*, VCPS 2021 show.
- *Dionaea muscipula* "Fang", VCPS 2021 show.
- *Heliamphora folliculata*, VCPS 2021 show.
- *S. flava* var. *rubricoprora* x *S. flava* var. *cuprea*; VCPS 2021 show.
- *Roridula gorgonias*. (centre), VCPS 2021 show.

Design: Stephen Fretwell

VCPS News

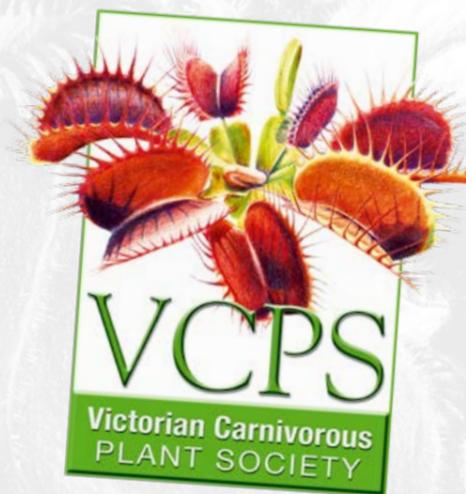
Free VCPS memberships from July 2020 to June 2021

Thanks to the COVID-19 virus, this year has been extremely disappointing in so many ways. Including the VCPS not being allowed to hold any meetings or events in 2020 after February, due to the gathering limitations and the temporary closing of the meeting venue.

However, the VCPS would like to help its members to improve their year by giving all of its current members a free subscription year so that their fees won't be due until **June 2021!**

For those members who have paid their subscription fees in 2020, an extra year will be added onto their current membership subscription.

For any queries please contact the VCPS Membership secretary Peter Bloem at: pbloem@bigpond.net.au



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The VCPS Grand Champion plant, *Nepenthes burbidgeae* (left) and Reserve Champion plant *Roridula gorgonias*. Photos: Stephen Fretwell



The VCPS February 2021 annual show display at Collectors Corner.

Better late than never VCPS 2020/21 Annual show

The delayed VCPS 2020/21 annual show held this February was a tremendous success and contained some spectacular plants and displays.

Congratulations to Justin Thong for taking out the Grand Champion prize with his magnificent *Nepenthes burbidgeae*, which had stunning lower pitchers on it and is quite a difficult plant to grow.

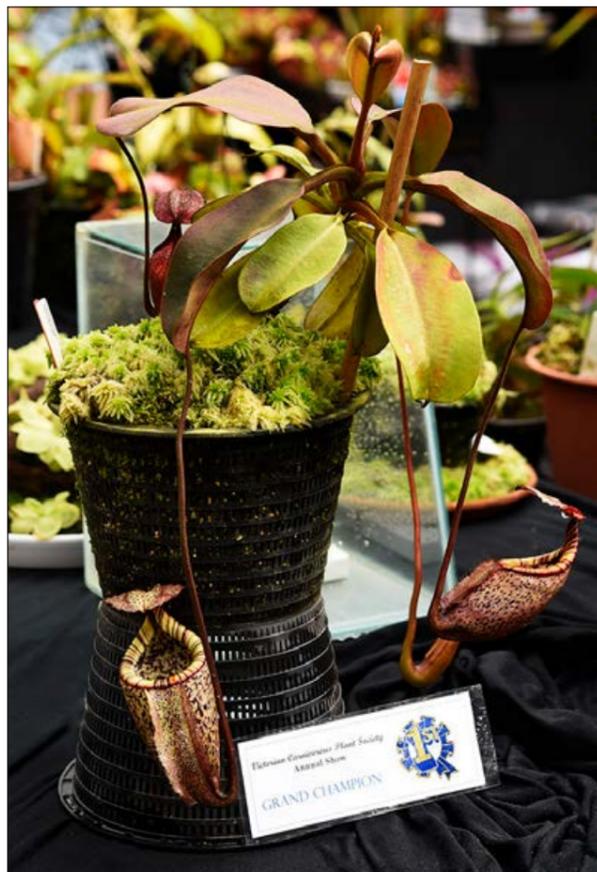
Congratulations also to Sean Spence for winning the Reserve Champion award who displayed a large and rarely seen superb specimen of *Roridula gorgonias* that he grew from seed. *Roridula* is an extremely sticky protocarnivorous plant that catches prey, but cannot digest it directly. Instead it relies on an insect (*Pameridea roridulae*) that sucks out the captured prey's juices and the plant then absorbs nutrients from the insect's droppings.

Plants from almost every genus were present at the show which was excellent to see considering it was late summer. There was beautiful, large flowers of *U. alpina*, stunning tropical *Drosera* from N.T and some large and very colourful *Heliophora*.

There was also a fantastic variety of large *Sarracenia*'s, VFT's and *Nepenthes* species. Along with some, amazing *Drosera*, *Utricularia* and *Pinguicula* that were on display too. Congratulations to all the members that contributed to the show, this was one of the biggest shows we've ever had.



This shows Mike McCarthy award went to a huge 16" pot of *Sarracenia purpurea ssp. venosa*.



Grand Champion *Nepenthes burbidgeae*.



Reserve Champion *Roridula gorgonias*.



S. leucophylla 'Tarnok'.



S. purpurea ssp *venosa* var. *montana*.



S. minor var. *okefenokeensis*.



The mixed *Pinguicula* rock display.



Collectors corner's plant display in a large bonsai pot.

SHOW JUDGING RESULTS

20-Feb-2021

SECTION A Grand champion

Justin Thong – *Nepenthes burbidgeae*

SECTION B Reserve champion

Sean Spence – *Roridula gorgonias*

SECTION C Memorial trophies

Best *Sarracenia*

(Mike McCarthy memorial trophy)

Stephen Fretwell – *Sarracenia purpurea* ssp *venosa*

Winner of the monthly plant award for the year

Sean Spence

SECTION D INDIVIDUAL DISPLAY OR TERRARIUM

1. Peter Bloem - *Pinguicula* rock display
2. Sean Spence - *Sarracenia purpurea* swamp display
3. Peter Bloam - Pygmy *Drosera* mixed species display

SECTION E CARNIVOROUS PLANT SPECIES

Class 1 *Sarracenia* species

Sarracenia alata

1. Andrew Gibbons
2. Steve Fretwell
3. Steve Fretwell

Sarracenia flava

1. Ron Abernethy
 2. Andrew Gibbons
- No other entries

Sarracenia leucophylla

1. 'Tarnok' - Steve Fretwell
2. Citronelle - Steve Fretwell
3. Baldwin County - Steve Fretwell

Sarracenia minor

1. var. *okefenokeensis* - Steve Fretwell
2. var. *okefenokeensis* - Andrew Gibbons
3. var. *minor* Typical - Andrew Gibbons

Sarracenia oreophila

No entries

Sarracenia psittacina

1. var. *okefenokeensis* - Steve Fretwell
- No other entries



The bright and vibrant *Sarracenia* display.



Cephalotus follicularis.



Drosera intermedia.



Drosera falconeri.



Drosera admirabilis.

Sarracenia purpurea

1. var. *montana* - Steve Fretwell
2. var. *venosa* - Steve Fretwell
3. var. *heterophylla* - Steve Fretwell

Sarracenia rubra

1. var. *rubra* - Steve Fretwell
- No other entries

Class 3 *Nepenthes*

1. *N. burbidgeae* - Justin Thong
2. *N. gracilliflora* - Justin Thong
3. *N. truncata* - Justin Thong

Class 4 *Dionaea muscipula*

1. "Fang" - Ron Abernethy
2. "Paradisias" - Ron Abernethy
3. 'South West Giant' - Steve Fretwell

Class 5 *Cephalotus follicularis*

1. Andrew Gibbons
 2. Andrew Gibbons
- No other entries

Class 6 Pygmy *Drosera* (species only)

1. *D. scorpioides* - Peter Bloem
2. *D. pygmaea*, Langwarrin - Andrew Gibbons
3. *D. pulchella* - Peter Bloem

Class 7a Rosetted tuberous & winter growing *Drosera/Uticularia*

(No entries due to Covid-19 lockdown)

Class 7b Upright tuberous & winter growing *Drosera*

(No entries due to Covid-19 lockdown)

Class 7c Tuberous *Drosera* at show

No entries

Class 8a Other temperate climate *Drosera*

1. *D. intermedia* - Andrew Gibbons
2. *D. glabripes* - Sean Spence
3. *D. aliciae* (*curviscapa*) - Andrew Gibbons

Class 8b Tropical *Drosera*

1. *D. falconeri* - Sean Spence
2. *D. darwinensis* - Sean Spence
3. *D. aff. petiolaris* - Sean Spence

Class 8c *Drosera binata*

1. *D. binata* var. *multifida*, Angourie, NSW - Steve Fretwell
2. *D. binata* var. *dichotoma*, Madden Plains, NSW - Steve Fretwell
3. *D. binata* var. *multifida*, Beerwah, QLD. - Steve Fretwell

Class 8d *Drosera regia*

No entries



The 1st place VFT: "Fang" with arched traps



The 2nd place VFT: Paradisia



The 3rd place VFT: 'South West Giant'



VFT: "All Green"



The *Dionaea muscipula* display, showing over 30 different VFT clones.



Darlingtonia californica.



Catopsis berteroniana.



Drosera scorpioides.



Utricularia calycifida.



The *Utricularia*, *Brocchinia*, *Catopsis* and *Drosera* display.



Pinguicula cyclosecta.



The *Pinguicula* display.

Class 9 *Pinguicula*

1. *P. cyclosecta* - Peter Bloem
2. *P. gigantea* - Peter Bloem
3. *P. caerulea* - Sean Spence

Class 10 *Utricularia* or *Genlisea*

1. *U. alpina* 'Pittier Moon' - Justin Thong
2. *U. calycifida* - Justin Thong
3. *U. uniflora* - Sean Spence

Class 11 *Byblis*

No entries

Class 12 *Darlingtonia*

1. Andrew Gibbons
2. Andrew Gibbons
3. Andrew Gibbons

Class 13 *Heliophora*

1. *H. folliculata* - Justin Thong
2. *H. purpurescens* - Justin Thong
3. *H. ionasii* - Justin Thong

Class 14 *Catopsis* or *Brocchinia*

1. *Catopsis berteroniana* - Peter Bloem
2. *Catopsis berteroniana* - Justin Thong
3. *Brocchinia reducta* - Andrew Gibbons

Class 15 *Roridula* or *Drosophyllum*

1. *Roridula gorgonias* - Sean Spence
2. *Drosophyllum lusitanicum* - Peter Bloem
3. *Roridula gorgonias* - Peter Bloem

SECTION F

Carnivorous Plant Hybrids

Class 1 *Sarracenia* hybrid

1. *S. alata* x *flava* - Ron Abernethy
2. *S. leucophylla* x (*flava* x *purpurea*) - Andrew Gibbons
3. *S. psittacina* x *minor* "Giant" - Andrew Gibbons

Class 2 *Nepenthes* hybrid

1. *N. 'Predator'* - Justin Thong
2. *N. lowii* x *zakriana* - Steve Fretwell
3. *N. veitchii* x *burbridgeae* - Steve Fretwell



Tallest Sarracenia:
S. leucophylla Baldwin Co, Alabama



Largest Nepenthes pitcher:
N. 'Predator'



Largest VFT trap:
D. muscipula "Tall"

Class 3 *Pinguicula* hybrids

- 1. *P. emarginata* x *Weser* - Peter Bloem
- No other entries

**SECTION H
Biggest Carnivorous Plants**

Tallest *Sarracenia*

S. leucophylla 76cm - Steve Fretwell

Largest *Nepenthes* pitcher

N. 'Predator' 28cm - Justin Thong

Largest VFT trap

"Tall" 3.7cm - Justin Thong

| 2021 SHOW RESULTS | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Not including awards | | | | |
| | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | Total |
| Steve Fretwell | 7 | 5 | 6 | 18 |
| Andrew Gibbons | 4 | 5 | 6 | 15 |
| Justin Thong | 6 | 4 | 2 | 12 |
| Peter Bloem | 5 | 3 | 3 | 11 |
| Sean Spence | 2 | 3 | 3 | 8 |
| Ron Abernethy | 3 | 1 | | 4 |



Nepenthes gracilliflora.



Nepenthes tenuis.



Nepenthes veichii x burbridgeae.



Heliamphora purpurescens.



Heliamphora ionasii (left) and *H. folliculata*.



Drosophyllum lusitanicum.



Roridula gorgonias.



The *Nepenthes* and *Heliamphora* display.



Pinguicula emarginata x 'Weser', an easy and stunning plant to grow.

Selling plants in Covid-19 lockdown

BY PETER BLOEM.

I have been growing some species of *Pinguicula* for a number of years now. One of the easiest ones to grow is *Pinguicula emarginata* x 'Weser', they readily divide into multiple plants and leaf pulls have an excellent strike rate.

I had a lot of *Pinguicula emarginata* x 'Weser' growing in my green house and during the 2020 Covid19 lock down, I was not able to sell all of these plants at meetings or our annual show, so I thought I would try to sell them through ebay.

Every Sunday afternoon for many months I would get the ordered plants ready for posting out for Monday morning. The bare rooted pings were wrapped in damp sphagnum moss and placed inside a flattened black polypipe.

All customers paid via PayPal and their address would come up automatically.

The postal service was slower than usual because of the high demand during the Covid19 pandemic. Most customers would receive their plants in 5-10 days.

One customer that I posted out to, had their shop address, but unfortunately the shop was closed because of the lock down restrictions. The plants that I had sent him had been in the postal service for 32 days before it had come back to me.

When I had opened the parcel I was surprised to see



P. emarginata x 'Weser' plants after they'd be in the mail for 32 days.



The same plants after they'd recovered several months after.

the pings had been growing in total darkness. The new growth was completely white with long spindly roots searching for water. The sphagnum moss that I used for packing was bone dry.

I decided to pot up the pings to see if they would stay alive. I placed the pot in a shady spot and gradually exposed it to more light over a couple of weeks.

In a number of months the pings had fully recovered and are now happily growing with the other Pings that I have in my collection.

So now I feel confident that the plants will survive from a long spell in the Australian postal service.



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*Tuberous *Drosera* sold when dormant Nov-late March.

*Pygmy *Drosera* sold as gemmae (vegetive buds) over 3 months. May-June.

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Drosera squamosa



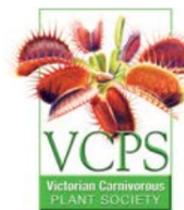
Cephalotus follicularis



Drosera moorei



Utricularia petertaylori



Victorian Carnivorous PLANT SOCIETY INC.

Annual Subscriptions

Australian membership \$28.00

Overseas membership \$28.00

Electronic membership \$18.00

Mail & Electronic Membership \$30.00

All cheques or money orders should be made payable to the Victorian Carnivorous Plant Society Inc (VCPS). Payment can be made by Cheque, Money Orders, Direct deposit and Paypal. Payment from overseas must be in Australian dollars. (Payment by Credit card is also available for international members only.)

Please visit vcps.org for further details

Correspondence

Please forward all correspondence regarding subscription, change of address, articles for the journal and back issues to:

The Secretary VCPS
1 Pollard Place,
Sunbury, Victoria 3429.
AUSTRALIA

Journal articles, in MS-Word, ready for publication, may be Emailed to the Editor or Secretary.

Meetings

Most VCPS meetings are held in the hall at the rear of the Pilgrim Uniting Church on the corner of Bayview Road and Montague Street, Yarraville – Melway map reference 41K7. These meetings are on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 8 PM.

However, some meetings may be at the home of members during a weekend. Details of meeting dates and topics are listed in each journal.

If unsure of the location or date of any meeting, please ring a committee person for details.

The VCPS Annual General Meeting, usually held at Yarraville in June, provides substantial benefits for each and every member able to attend.



D. muscipula 'South West Giant'



Utricularia alpina 'Pittier Moon'



Drosera curviscapa



S. flava var. *rubricoprora* x *cuprea*



Roridula gorgonias



Nepenthes truncata



Heliamphora folliculata



Dionaea muscipula "Fang"