



THE IRISH ORCHID SOCIETY

2017
ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING

MINUTES

DUBLIN
12 JUNE 2017

AGENDA

IRISH ORCHID SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE IOS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 12 JUNE 2017

Apologies: Phillipa Thomas, Laurence May, Marie Hourigan, Shane Kerr.

Minutes of 2016 AGM supplied to each member were reviewed by those present. Excerpts of a letter from Phillipa Thomas who couldn't be present, expressed an interest for some further instructions on planting the various types of orchids.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

Brendan Sayers presented his report as a PowerPoint presentation detailing what was going on in the orchid world in relation to Ireland and the IOS. The first slide of the presentation was of *Platystele minimiflora*, which is the subject of an article for Curtis's Botanical Magazine. The images were of plants collected in Belize by the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin.

Fundraising was emphasised in its importance to Society funds, as was the monthly raffle.

Brendan Sayers was awarded the Westonbirt Medal by the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) at the Lindley Hall, London. His publications on Irish orchids have been widely acclaimed.

The Dublin Orchid Fair was a great success. Ray Creek Orchids was highly commended. Sadly, due to retirement he will not be returning to the Botanic Gardens. Burnham Orchids will be returning for 2018.

Cypripedium Gisela was one of the hardy orchids that was on show from members collections. Brendan complimented those who brought plants for display and remarked that they were one of the best ways in which to attract new members as they were not grown by 'experts'.

Potting Workshop - there were nine participants, a very successful day to encourage new members.

Brendan used the images of *Dactylorhiza maculata X kerryensis* to illustrate that many questions on both native and tropical orchids are answered through website queries. A valuable asset to inquisitive plants people.

Prince Charles was presented with a copy of *Ireland's Wild Orchids* when he made an unofficial visit to the National Botanic Gardens.



Larry May's production of *Pollinia* was highly commended by Brendan Sayers - who expressed regret at the dearth of articles from members of the Society.

Endorsement of the Chairperson's report was proposed by Carmel Higgins and seconded by Tom Dolrn

Endorsement of the Treasurer's report was proposed by Úna Breathnach and seconded by Scott McNaughton.

VACANCY

There is a vacancy for Hon. Secretary in the Society. Much of the work behind the scenes is done by Marie Hourigan who is an unsung hero.

Olwyn Lanigan proposed Carmel Higgins for the position which was seconded by Tom Doran. Carmel was deemed elected and welcomed to the position.

Larry May thinks that one person should have the job of publicity and promoting membership of the Society. Interested members were asked to make themselves known to Committee members.

We as yet do not have public liability insurance cover for field trips which we need to be compliant with the Charity Organisation.

Plans for the Dublin Orchid Fair 2018:

The RHS Orchid Committee is to visit and hold meetings at the Dublin Orchid Fair 2018

The Gardens are hosting the event. An exhibition of orchid art by artists Greta Perth and Deborah Lambkin will take place along with archive material from Glasnevin. Greta Perth's art will be accompanied by Brendan Sayer's text. The text will be used as part of the folio for the paintings and also be published in the celebratory issue of *Pollinia* which will be edited by Laurence May. Topics for the issue being considered are:

- History of the RHS Orchid Committee and the current committee profile by Clare Herman
- Words from past IOS Chairmen, Shane Kerr, Sean Phelan and Brendan Sayers.
- Snippets from members and guests.
- A spotlight on *Spiranthes romanzoffiana* by Charles Nelson
- Orchids names after Sir Frederick Moore by Brendan Sayers (see above)

A discussion of a limited edition print to help with funding and to use as memorabilia also took place.

A.O.B.

The meeting thanked the National Botanic Gardens for their support and were delighted to be involved with a botanic garden that throughout history has been one of the world's greatest gardens for orchids.

A reminder for your diaries: The Dublin Orchid Fair will be on 21st and 22nd. April 2018

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm