1 Plant 26. Any other Species of Americas 1. Scaphosepalum gibberosum Gigantea R. Mathews 27. Species Rest of the World 9 Plants 1. Ddc. macranthum T. Hamilton 2. Ddc. macranthum R. Mathews 3. Ddc. cobbianum R. Mathews 28. Australasian Hybrids 0 Plants 0 Plant 29. Cymbidium Standard 30. Cymbidium Intermediate & Miniature 0 Plants 0 Plants 31. Paphiopedilum Hybrid 32. Dendrobium Hybrid 2 Plants 1. Den. Dals Delux x Dal's Wizard 'Splash Pansy' A. Evans 2. Den. prism R. Mathews 33. Laeliinae Hybrid 2 Plants 1. L. anceps v vietchiana x Lc. nouissima? O. Zandstra 2. Cattlianthe Porcia Cannizaro K. Nelson 34. Oncidiae Allied Intergenerics Hybrid 9 Plants 1. Onc. Sharry Baby T. Hamilton 2. Milt. Purple Queen O. Zandstra 3. Onc. Sharry Baby I. Luke 35. Hybrid of Americas All Other 1 Plants 1. Zygo. Adelaide Light S. Thompson 36. Other Orchid Hybrid 2 Plants 1. Phal unknown O. Zandstra 2. Phal unknown I. Luke

Ramble:

About 5 weeks ago, I was in a little town called Orbost in East Gippsland where I met a friend. Walking up the main street I came across the local 2 dollar shop. Outside, they had 200mm plastic saucers to go under pots, for 40 cents or 10 for 2 dollars. Always on the lookout for a bargain and being a fan of dish culture, I bought 10. I had to make holes for drainage and the easiest way to do this is with a soldering iron. Dish culture is a great way to grow many Bulbophyllums, not only because they like it with their short roots, but also because they look very attractive like this. I have already made good use of most of them. It is important to anchor the plant when using a dish and what I do is to loosely tie it through the drain holes and then add the mix. Once the mix is in, tighten the wire to anchor the plant into the mix. It can be fiddly but well worth the effort. I just use my normal mix which consists of bark, perlite and clay balls. I think that this works okay with Bulbophyllums because it certainly creates a moist environment which suits them. I have others which I acquired growing in slat pots in sphagnum moss and they are happy, but I am not game to use sphagnum in a dish as I think that it would be too wet. I have noticed lately that several of my Vanda tricolor plants are becoming extremely tall and I'm tempted to topcut them. Some already have new sidegrowths towards the base. It's tempting to do this now as these plants have nice green

tips on the roots but I should probably wait until spring. Topcutting Vandas usually works ok provided one keeps in mind a few things. Probably the most important one is to cut below a couple of roots at least so that the cutting can support and feed itself. If the roots are long and make repotting awkward, then soaking them in water overnight will make them much more pliable and manageable. If the "stump" has no sidegrowths or leaves it might be prompted to throw a sidegrowth but this is much more likely if leaves are present. We are having a lot of rain this week and it's getting cool, so conditions are ideal for fungal problems. We will find out in the next few weeks how well our media hold up being constantly wet for sustained periods of time. It's definitely a good idea to get buds and flowers out of the rain. As I'm always saying, the walkpast is critically important, no matter how much it might be raining. So make sure you do it even if you get a little wet.







