



THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SA INC.

Gazette

November 2021

Patron: Coralie Hills FAOC
President: Michael Willoughby

AT A GLANCE

The next General Meeting of the South Coast Orchid Club of SA will be held on Monday 8th November 2021 at the RSL Hall, 4 Prince George Parade, Colonel Light Gardens. Our Guest Speaker will be Kevin Western speaking on "Sarcos with Balls". This will be our **Sarcochilus** Night, so bring your Sarcos in to display them. There will be Saroc plants for sale from a number of growers.

LEARNERS' GROUP: There will be a Learners' Group Meeting at the November Meeting at 7.15pm.

JUDGING: Please have your plants benched by 7.40pm so Judging can commence at 7.50pm. If you are running late due to work commitments please phone Phil on 0438 891 612.

DAYTIME CHAPTER: The next meeting will be held at Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton on Thursday 11th November 2021 at 2.00 pm. Our Guest Speaker will be Vicky Cooper speaking on Phalaenopsis an Interactive Workshop.

SOUTHERN REGION: The next meeting will be held at 2.00 pm on Sunday 21st November 2021 in Carrickalinga House, 17-19 Torrens Street, Victor Harbor. Our Guest Speaker will be Kevin Western speaking on Sarcochilus with Balls. Learners Group will be held at 1.15 pm.

NEW MEMBERS: We welcome Wayne Mattschoss as a new member to the Club, Wayne, we hope that you will enjoy your time with the Club and learn a lot about the orchids that we all love so much.

LUCKY NAME BADGE: Make sure you wear your Name Badge to meetings, you may win a prize.

PUBLIC LIABILITY: Under Insurance Guidelines all members and Committee attending any function or meeting held by the Club must sign and print your name in an Attendance Book.

VALE - TREVOR KENNY

It is with great sadness that we mark the recent passing of Trevor Kenny, a long time member of the Club, both the Evening Group and the Daytime Chapter. We extend our sympathies to his partner, Coral.

R.I.P.

DEADLINES FOR NEXT GAZETTES
28 November and 30 January

Website: <http://www.scocsa.net>
E-Mail: scocsa@outlook.com
Address: PO Box 314, Oaklands Park SA 5046
ABN 83 245 384 076





YOUR COMMITTEE FOR 2021

PRESIDENT:	Michael Willoughby	0479 162 527
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT:	Malcolm Mangelsdorf	
VICE PRESIDENT:	Kevin Western	
TREASURER:	Anne Steer	8270 3090
COMMITTEE:	Oui Ju, Richard Crinion, Christine Robertson, Andrew Dean, Craig Humfrey, Phil Steer, Craig Dicker, Marilyn Buckerfield	

NON COMMITTEE POSITIONS:		
Registrar	Phil Steer	0438 891 612
Editor	Christine Robertson	0438 363 940
Web Master	Craig Dicker	
Librarian Southern Region	Diane Cawley	
Photographer	Neil Cooper	
Convenor S. R. Group	Chris Heysen	0419 386 769
Convenors Daytime Chapter	Andrew Dean, Patty Abell	
Convenor Main Learners' Group	Craig Humfrey	

LIFE MEMBERS

* denotes Member who has passed away.

1978 Dulcie Grave *	1986 Harry Viney *	2009 Don Biebrick
1978 Leora Harvey	1986 John Nicholls	2009 Henk Van Leuveren *
1978 L. & H. Poole*	1989 Helen Edwards	2010 Dorothy Carassai
1978 Ellie Shaw*	1990 Dr, Keith Northcote *	2011 John and Bev Gay
1979 Syd Monkhouse	2003 Norman Gitsham *	2012 Noel Oliver *
1979 Bernie Hanson*	2005 Merve Steele *	2015 Lesley Fenton
1981 Lois Hanson*	2005 Shirley Steele *	2015 Rod McRedmond
1981 John Leeder*	Circa Tony and Toshy Deonnio *	2018 Kevin Western
1985 Brenda Lynch	2007 Ron and Irene Parish	2020 Malcolm Mangelsdorf
1985 Bubs Gready *	2007 Murray Baulderstone *	2021 Donna Meeuwssen
	2008 Geoff and Lucy Spear	

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Subscriptions for 2022 are now due. There will be no increase in subscriptions for 2022. We do value your membership and seeing you at meetings each month.

RATES – One membership covers all groups

Family Membership	\$38.00
Single Membership	\$30.00
Junior Membership	\$22.00

Rural and Interstate Membership

Family Membership	\$34.00
Single Membership	\$28.00

Account Details: BankSA Glenelg. BSB: 105-145
(Use your grower number for Reference)

Account No.: 545457040

President's Message



November 2021 is here and so is our ***Sarcochilus* feature evening** with the George and Patty Abell Perpetual Trophy being awarded. Please bring in all your flowering Sarcos to put on a fantastic display for the members. The Sarcos are once again looking great this year. To complement this we have Kevin Western who will be extolling the benefits of using clay balls in the Sarcinanthus group culture, a presentation not to miss. There will be Sarco plants for sale from a number of growers so bring your money along. You may purchase a future Champion.

The regular monthly competition is as usual so please bring in your other flowering orchids for the members to admire. The mild spring weather we have had again is very welcome.

A product Steve Howard mentioned that is useful is 'Lawn Grub, Lawn Beetle Grubs & Slater Killer' and it can be found in Foodland Supermarkets. The nasties that love the new growths, spikes and emerging buds are slugs, snails and earwigs (which love the current conditions). This is a busy time for all of us as we prepare our collections for the coming year. The work we do now will give us reward next flowering season.

Red Spider mite (I hear wettable sulphur can be used to control them) will take full advantage of the drier weather so be on the lookout. For those who do not particularly like to use chemicals in the garden and have a larger collection to care for, an alternative control of Spider Mites is biological control with predatory mites, these love to feed on the spider mites and can, if the conditions are right, colonise in your collection keeping the nasties under control. As well do not forget the other pests such as Mealy Bug and Scale that love our precious plants.

A reminder that any member who is planning to come along to the December meeting and having a meal, that this will need to be paid for at the November meeting.

It is the time to be thinking about who will be running your Club in 2022!

Good growing and showing

Michael Willoughby



Happy Birthday

**LESLEY FENTON, BILL JAYNE,
CHRISTINE ROBERTSON, DON HIGGS,
JOHN SORRELL, GENNY HUXTABLE,
JULIE DAVIDGE**



Is your name in the Birthday Book ??



ORCHID CALENDAR 2021

[These dates are subject to COVID-19 directives]

GENERAL MEETING

Monday 8th November 2021 8.00 pm
RSL Hall, 4 Prince George, Parade Colonel Light Gardens
Guest Speaker: Kevin Western "Sarcs with Balls"
Learners Group meeting at 7.15 pm
There will be Sarco plants for sale from a number of growers.

COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 10th November 2021 7.30 pm [Note: New venue:
The Southern (Formerly Racquets SA), South Road, St Marys]

DAYTIME CHAPTER

Thursday 11th November 2021 2.00 pm
Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton
Guest Speaker: Vicky Cooper Phalaenopsis Interactive Workshop

SOUTHERN REGION MEETING

Sunday 21st November 2021 2.00 pm
Carrickalinga House, Victor Harbor
Guest Speaker: Kevin Western speaking on Sarcophilus with Balls
Learners Group meeting at 1.15 pm.

MAIN MEETING CHRISTMAS DINNER

Monday 13th December 2021 6.00 pm
RSL Hall, 4 Prince George Parade, Colonel Light Gardens
[See below for details of menu, payment, etc.]
Meeting after Dinner at 8.00 pm with Kris Kringle & Monster Raffle

CHRISTMAS DINNER 13th DECEMBER 2021

The Colonel Light Gardens RSL will provide the following menu for our Club Christmas Dinner this year, The Dinner will start at 6.00 pm and finish by 7.45 pm so that the meeting can take place, starting at 8.00 pm. There will be Kris Kringle, a monster Raffle, and a Guest Speaker.

The Dinner must be pre-ordered when paying, and any dietary requirements discussed. Payment must be made prior to the Night, Payment can be made on line [BSB 105-145 Account No. 545457040 Account Name SCOCOA]. Please use your Grower Number plus an X (to advise Xmas Dinner), or you may pay Anne Steer at the meeting. If paying on line please email Anne with Menu Choices [steera@bigpond.com]

There will be no BYO Drinks. **Water will be provided. Drinks may be purchased at the Bar.**

We hope that you will all be there to round off this very difficult year in style.

MENU

\$18 EACH Main Course

Crumbed Fish with Lemon & Tartare Sauce,
Salad & Chips
Roast Turkey with Rich Gravy, Cranberry
Sauce & Seasonal Vegetables
Chicken Schnitzel with Gravy, Salad & Chips

\$7 each Desert

Christmas Fruit Pudding with Brandied Custard
Mixed Berry Trifle with Chantilly Cream
(sugar free option)

Vegetarian & Gluten Free options available.
Meals served with a Bread Roll & Butter

END OF YEAR BUSINESS

NOMINATIONS FOR COMMITTEE:

At the close of the December meeting we need nomination forms filled in by members nominating other members for Committee positions. See page 20 of this gazette for nomination form or pick some up from Anne at the meeting. Most positions to be vacated can be re-nominated.

TROPHIES AND LIBRARY BOOKS:

Please return all trophies and library books to the Secretary at the November meeting or as soon as possible.

CAN YOU HELP YOUR CLUB IN 2022?

November is the time to think about becoming a Committee member. The following Committee positions will become vacant in 2022: 2 Committee members.

Committee members are expected to be committed to the South Coast Orchid Club by assisting the Club to continually grow and to promote orchids. The responsibilities that the Committee members are required to assist with are:

- Being available for the main meeting 2nd Monday of the month and Committee meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of the month 7.30 – 9.30pm.
- Remaining after the main meeting to help clean up the hall and kitchen.
- Helping at our Shows by manning the trading table between 7am and 9pm. A responsible person must be in charge at all times during shopping hours.
- Assisting in transporting trestles etc. prior to Show to Shopping Centre.
- Assisting with putting in and taking out of the Show.
- Having a knowledge of orchids and a rapport with people so that the public can be helped when purchasing from the trading table.

If you are interested in becoming a Committee member or can assist in any way please ring Anne on 8270 3090 or Michael on 0479 162 527

EDITORS NOTE

Quite a considerable numbers of our members receive this Gazette in black and white by mail. Others have elected to have the Gazette directly emailed to them. They receive the Gazette in full colour and have the benefit of beautiful photographs of very colourful orchids. They also receive the Gazette up to a week before the mail can deliver it to you others. If you would like to have the colourful version emailed to you send me an email so that I receive your correct email address.

Please don't forget that this is your Gazette. If there is anything you would like to see covered or anything you would like to see changed, please let me know. I especially like photographs to include and details of your successes with your orchids.

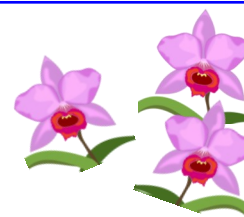
You can contact me,

Christine Robertson, by:

Email: kloval@westnet.com.au Phone: (08) 8536 3948

Mobile: 0438 363 940

Mail: PO Box 454, Strathalbyn SA 5255



October Results List

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

Open Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

3063	Sarco. Kulnura Phase	Jane & Don Higgs (1302)	3
3064	Sarco. Gwyneth	Jane & Don Higgs (1302)	2

Australian Native Epiphyte - Species

3062	Den. gracilicaule	Jane & Don Higgs (1302)	3
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Australian Native Terrestrial - Hybrid

3065	Ptst. Hoodwink	Jane & Don Higgs (1302)	3
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Cymbidium 60 - 90mm All colours in Non-std

3059	Cym. Canned Magic 'Kobe'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std

3060	Cym. Maluka 'Baby Pink'	Jane & Don Higgs (1302)	3
3061	Cym. (Devon Shell x Memoria Amelia Earhart)	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2

Garard / Western Trophy

3058	Cym. (Devon Shell x Memoria Amelia Earhart)	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Oncidiinae - Hybrid > 60mm

3049	Onc. (Fireflower x Shelly Anne)	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

3053	Phrag. Giganteum 'Vincent Vista'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
3054	Masd. Curacao 'Hamish'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
3055	Masd. Rubicon 'Conference'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	1

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species

3056	Masd. coccinea var. alba 'Lemforder'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Orchid Seedling - any Genera

3057	Cym. (Devon Shell x Memoria Amelia Earhart)	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Paphiopedilum - Species

3050	Paph. lowii	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
3051	Paph. malipoense	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
3052	Paph. haynaldianum	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	1

First Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

3042	Den. Unknown	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	3
3043	Den. Delicatum 'Worthy'	Phil and Anne Steer (514)	2
3044	Den. Jonathon's Glory	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	1

Cymbidium 60 - 90mm All colours in Non-std

3045	Cym. Pearl Dawson 'Royale'	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	3
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Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std

3047	Cym. Pee Wee 'Coralta'	Phil and Anne Steer (514)	3
3046	Cym. Kiwi Devonport 'Flying High'	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	2

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

3048	Den. (Unknown x Grumpy)	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	3
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Second Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

3035	Den. x delicatum	Helen McIntosh (299)	3
3037	Den. Duno Deerose	Helen McIntosh (299)	2
3038	Den. Unknown	Helen McIntosh (299)	1

Australian Native Epiphyte - Species

3033	Den. striolatum	Helen McIntosh (299)	3
3034	Sarco. hartmannii	Janet Adams & Gordon Ninnies (1195)	2

Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std

3039	Cym. Pee Wee 'BrownRay'	Beth Stronach (836)	3
3040	Cym. Unknown	Colin, Judy, Alex MacDonald (202)	2

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

3041	Coel. Unchained Melody 'Snow Drift'	Beth Stronach (836)	3
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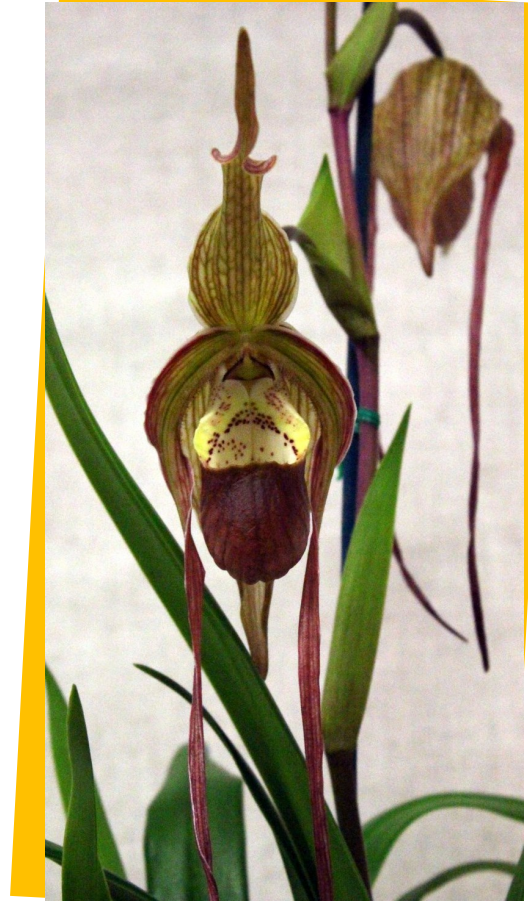
PLANT COMMENTARY – OCTOBER 2021

Orchid of Open Division Plant of the Night

The plant chosen by the Judges was a very large and well grown plant of *Phrag. Giganteum* 'Vincent Vista' grown by Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju.

This was a real eye catcher with two beautiful flowers of lovely substance with a further bud on a tall slender inflorescence. This plant is a crossing of a primary hybrid, *Phrag. Gande* and a species, *Phrag. caudatum*.

Well done Michael & Oui.



**ORCHID OF OPEN DIVISION
PLANT OF THE NIGHT**
***Phrag. Giganteum* 'Vincent Vista'**
Grown By
Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju
Photos Neil Cooper

SEEDLING OF THE NIGHT *Cym.* (Devon Shell X Memoria Amelia Earhart)

Grown By
Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju
Photos Neil Cooper



PLANT COMMENTARY – OCTOBER 2021 cont ...

Orchids of Second and First Division

The plants chosen by the Judges for the two Divisions were two plants of the same breeding. They were *Cym. Pee Wee*. This plant is a primary hybrid of *Cym. madidum* crossed with *Cym. floribundum*.

The Second Division plant was *Cym. Pee Wee 'Brown Ray'* grown by Beth Stronach and the First Division plant was *Cym. Pee Wee 'Coralta'* Grown by Phil & Anne Steer.

When the two plants were put side by side it was easy to see the small differences in the flowers with the Coralta clone having slightly more green in the flower with a lighter labellum, and the Brown Ray clone having a darker flower and a dark brown labellum. Both plants were well grown and carried multiple arching spike of dainty little flowers. Both very attractive plants.

Congratulations Beth & Phil & Anne



Orchid of First Division
Cym. Pee Wee 'Coralta'
 Grown By
 Phil & Anne Steer
 Photos Neil Cooper



Orchid of Second Division
Cym. Pee Wee 'Brown Ray'
 Grown by Beth Stronach
 Photos Neil Cooper

Thank you to our Judges, and Recorders for all your efforts!
 Good Growing

Phil Steer
 Registrar



DAYTIME CHAPTER

Thursday 9th September, 2021



Hi everyone,

The October meeting of the Daytime Chapter welcomed back guest speaker **Lesley Gunn** who gave a wide-ranging talk on judging perspectives. This included hints on plant (and pot) presentation for competition, practical advice on caring for your plant's appearance, as well as a healthy dose of humorous judging stories!

Lesley's authoritative answers to the many interesting questions - posed by members, was extremely well received.



A smaller number of plants were presented for showing this month, due in part to the sad news that was conveyed at the beginning of the meeting. Our love and condolences go to Coral and her family.



Winner of popular vote for Plant of the Day was Wally Walloscheck, with his *Dendrobium tetragonum*, grown on cork bark.



The Commentary on Plant of the Day was also given by Lesley Gunn, and the meeting was concluded with reminiscences over a cuppa.

Next Meeting : Guest Speaker: **Vicki Cooper**
Phalaenopsis – An Interactive Workshop
 Thursday November 11th – 2pm, Lou Kesting Hall, South Brighton.

Daytime Chapter Christmas Lunch
 December 8th 12.30pm **Morphett Arms Hotel**
 138 Morphett Rd, Glengowrie + Kris Kringle
 Contact Andrew if you are interested ...



Andrew Dean



SOUTHERN REGION MEETING
Sunday 17th October 2021

Convenor, Chris Heysen, opened the meeting at 2.05 pm welcoming the 28 members and guests present. Chris gave a special welcome to new members Anne Matthews and Pam MacDonald. Welcome also to guest speaker, Kyle Howard (and his father Steve Howard).

Apologies: Marg and Warren Yelland, Julie and Peter Davidge, and Meghan Clayton

Thank you to John Gay for his usual sterling effort as leader of the Learners Group. This especially so this month as John has again been in hospital for several days in the past month. Chris reminded members that Covid-19 rules required everyone to log their presence either by phone app or in the special attendance book in the front entrance.

Guest Speaker: Our Guest Speaker, Kyle Howard, gave us a wonderful talk on the native terrestrial orchids of South Australia. Many of these wonderful plants are unique to our region and are under severe threat from land clearing for urban development or agriculture. The work that Kyle and his colleagues are doing in documenting where we still have surviving colonies of plants and endeavouring to protect them is incredibly valuable and is to be highly commended by us all. In thanking Kyle at the end of his talk Chris told the story of how as a child growing up in Hahndorf some 70 years ago he had collected many of the orchids shown in Kyle's talk and sold them on the side of the road for a shilling a bunch. On returning to these sites in recent years Chris found them all to be covered by houses for people or grass for cows. This just highlights how important the work of people like Kyle is to trying to retain our floral heritage.

Announcements:

In past years (except for last year due to Covid) the Southern Region Group has held a Christmas luncheon – usually on the same day as the final meeting for the year. This year that day is 19th December, only 6 days before Christmas. All venues in Victor Harbor are likely to be booked out that day and as we still have the uncertainty of Covid Chris suggested that we forego the Christmas luncheon again this year. He asked if any members objected to this. No one responded.

Lucky Name Badge: Val Phillips **Lucky Door Prize:** Elsie Clifford

The raffle was held as usual and Chris thanked all the donors of raffle prizes.



Trophy Presentation: Phil Steer presented the Trophy for Champion Australian Native at the Southern Region Show, to Chris Heysen, and the Certificate for Reserve Champion to Eileen Pinnock - along with certificates and prize cards to the respective winners of various classes at the more recent Spring Show at the main club.

Judging: was carried out by Phil Steer, Steve Howard and Jane and Don Higgs. Christine Robertson undertook the data entry and card printing.

Judges Commentary: Steve Howard.

Next meeting – Sunday November 21st – the Guest speaker will be Kevin Western – who will be talking on *Sarcochilus*.

The meeting closed at 3:45pm



Chris Heysen
0419 386 769

October Results List

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

First Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

3077	Den. kingianum	Shirley & Don Greig (1128)	3
3078	Sarco. (Kulnura Sanctuary x Roberta)	Shirley & Don Greig (1128)	2

Australian Native Epiphyte - Species

3076	Den. linguiforme 'Wayne'	Eileen Pinnock (519)	3
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Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std

3082	Cym. Deane Roesler 'Jaffa'	Sid James (170)	3
3083	Cym. Dorothy Stockstill 'Forgotten Fruit'	Sid James (170)	2
3084	Cym. Jack Hudlow	Sid James (170)	1

Laeliinae - Cluster

3080	Ctt. Trick or Treat	Eileen Pinnock (519)	3
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Laeliinae - Non Standard

3081	C. Caudabec Candy x Rth. Love Sound	Eileen Pinnock (519)	3
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Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm

3079	Rlc. White Wonder	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
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Oncidiinae - Hybrid < 60mm

3085	Oip. Nelly Isler 'Red'	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

3086	Phal. Unknown 'Minnamoora White'	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
3087	Phal. Unknown 'White # 2'	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	2
3088	Phal. Unknown 'Lemon'	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	1

Second Division

Cymbidium 60 - 90mm All colours in Non-std

3072	Cym. Koala 'Cutie'	Gary Clark (224)	3
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Cymbidium over 90mm All colours inc Non-std

3071	Cym. Torchbeam	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	3
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Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std

3073	Cym. Cricket 'Invincible'	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	3
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Laeliinae - Non Standard

3070	Ctt. Meadii	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	2
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

3075	Phal. Fancy Freckles	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	3
3074	Phal. Magic Art	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	2

SOUTHERN REGION PLANT COMMENTARY

A great display of quality and well flowered Orchids.

Orchid of First Division / Plant of the Day Popular Vote

The plant selected by the Judges was grown and benched by Eileen Pinnock and it was a truly beautiful specimen of *Den. linguiforme* 'Wayne'. A large plant covered in tiny white, delicate flowers. This plant has been previously awarded by the AOC.

Congratulations
Eileen !



ORCHID OF FIRST DIVISION ORCHID OF THE DAY POPULAR VOTE

Den. linguiforme 'Wayne'

Grown By
Eileen Pinnock
Photos Christine Robertson



Orchid of Second Division

The plant of second division was *Phal.* Fancy Freckles grown by Genny & Dudley Huxtable.

This plant had a single spike with several branches of lovely lemon coloured flowers with lots of tiny brown freckles over the flowers. The flowers were smaller than a standard *Phalaenopsis* but the number of flowers on the inflorescence gave a delightful display.

Well done Genny & Dudley.

ORCHID OF SECOND DIVISION, *Phal.* Fancy Freckles

Grown By Genny & Dudley Huxtable
Photos Christine Robertson

Thanks to Christine for the computer recording and & our Judges Don & Jane. Our Deputy Regional Registrar, Steve Howard gave an informative and educational plant commentary.,
Thank you Steve
Keep up the Excellent work !

Phil Steer
Registrar



Phil Steer presents Chris and Lyn Heysen with the
**Noel Oliver Memorial Trophy for the Best Australian Native in the
 Southern Region Group Show** for their plant
Den. (Lorikeet x X delicatum)
 Congratulations to Chris and Lyn

UNUSUAL PLANT OF MONTH - *Dendrophylax lindenii*

Dendrophylax lindenii is a leafless epiphyte that occurs in Florida, Cuba and the Bahamas in low lying swampy areas where it favours the moss covered trunks of the Royal Palms. Plant consists of numerous green or grey green roots which have short white marks. The roots radiate from a compact stem and are mostly attached to the host tree. There are no leaves.

The inflorescence reaches 25 cm and bears up to 10 large, showy, waxy, fragrant, long lasting white flowers that flower successively. The lip carries two long curving spurs about 12 cm long that make the flower look somewhat like a frog. It has a 20 - 25 cm nectary to balance the elongate labellum.

This flower with the long appendages on the lip which resemble the legs of a jumping frog, has been given the common name of Frog Orchid.

Dendrophylax lindenii has been used only once in hybridising to date. It has been awarded many times in America with 3 AM, 1 FCC, and 5 cultural awards.



THE AUSTRALIAN SPECIES CYMBIDIUMS

by Frances and Julian Coker

There are three *Cymbidium* species indigenous to Australia, namely *Cym. canaliculatum*, *Cym. suave*, and *Cym. madidum*. They are found in Queensland, with *Cym. canaliculatum* extending westward across northern Australia to Western Australia and *Cym. suave* extending south to southern New South Wales. *Cym. madidum* is largely confined to Queensland, with only a small extension into northern New South Wales. They are all generally found in association with trees but are more appropriately considered as terrestrial rather than epiphytic, as their roots penetrate the rotted heartwood rather than attach themselves to the sound timber. All are small flowered, have leathery leaves and their leaves closely surround the pseudobulbs. When the leaves fall the bases remain as tight dried sheaths, and sharp spines remain at the dehiscence points. They flower from spring to early summer, those plants in the north flowering earlier than those in the south.

Cym. canaliculatum, first described by Robert Brown in 1810, is the most widely distributed and is more tolerant of heat and dryness than the others. It has extremely leathery leaves and multiple inflorescences of densely packed, variably coloured flowers, even on the same raceme. The flowers display four general colour patterns, giving rise to four varieties or groups. *Cym. canaliculatum* var. *canaliculatum* is the common form with red brown blotches overlaying a green to yellow background. *Cym. canaliculatum* var. *marginatum* has red brown flowers with a distinct yellow green margin, while *Cym. canaliculatum* var. *sparkesii* is solid red brown to almost black without any green. There is also a rare albino form that is clear green. Because *Cym. canaliculatum* prefers a drier habitat, it is most commonly found on the western slopes of the Great Dividing Range and the western plains in the east and the coastal forests rather than the rainforests in the north. *Cym. canaliculatum* var. *canaliculatum* is typical as the southern form while *Cym. canaliculatum* var. *marginatum* and *Cym. canaliculatum* var. *sparkesii* are found in the north of its range.



Cymbidium canaliculatum 'J G C' HCC/OSCOV and CC/OSCOV

Cym. madidum, first described by Lindley in 1840, prefers a higher humidity and moisture level and thus grows on the eastern slopes of the Great Dividing Range and the coastal plains. It is characterised by very large pseudobulbs and long pendulous inflorescences with widely spaced green to yellow flowers. *Cym. madidum* is commonly

found growing in the bases of elkhorn and staghorn ferns or in the rotting heartwood of trees and branches. Plants can grow into huge clumps that flower between September and December, the northern forms flowering earlier.



***Cym. madidum* 'Magenta'**
HCC/AOC



Cym. suave is found in a narrow band along the eastern seaboard from northern Queensland to southern NSW and was first described by Robert Brown in 1810. It prefers an environment between those preferred by *Cym. canaliculatum* and *Cym. madidum* and is characterised by canes, rather than pseudobulbs, that continue to grow and flower for a number of years. It is found growing in the rotting heartwood of Eucalyptus or between the flaking layers of bark of Melaleuca; it sometimes produces rhizomes that will run for a considerable distance before surfacing and producing leaves. *Cym. suave* requires a considerable amount of sunshine and is the coolest growing of the three species. The flowers are similar to those of *Cym. madidum*.



***Cymbidium suave* 'Stuart'**
CC/OSCOV

Select forms of each of these species are now grown and their specimen plants make a magnificent display when in full bloom. A protected environment with added heat during winter may be required in the southern states. Because of their individual charm, the fact that they are part of our national heritage, and the variety and extension of flowering time that they provide, the Australian species *Cymbidiums* are worthy of a place in any orchid collection.

SPHAGNUM MOSS as a POTTING MEDIUM by Brian Milligan

Pine bark is undoubtedly the most common ingredient of orchid potting mixes, especially for cymbidiums, Australian native dendrobiums and sarcochilus but Sphagnum moss is gaining popularity as a potting mix for many other genera.

Sphagnum moss grows in swamps or bogs, where it may form layers many feet deep. It is widely distributed in the northern hemisphere but grows only in sub-alpine zones in Australia and New Zealand. The most common species, and the only one harvested commercially, is *Sphagnum cristatum*. It is found in mountain bogs in Victoria, New South Wales, the ACT and Tasmania. The growth rate varies between 4 and 42 mm per annum in Tasmania.

Dehydrated Sphagnum moss can absorb 10-20 times its weight of water. The moss is relatively sterile and for this reason it was used as a dressing for burns and other wounds during the First World War. It's believed to contain anti-fungal substances, and it is therefore a useful medium for newly de-flasked orchid seedlings. It dries out much more slowly than other potting media, and consequently doesn't need watering as often as other potting mixes.

The moss is usually supplied commercially either as dehydrated material or as living material straight from the bog. Dehydrated moss takes several days to reconstitute. To avoid breaking the strands, squirt the moss with water occasionally over a day or two before unravelling them. The moss is best stored in foam boxes kept in good light, and watered occasionally, preferably with rainwater. Material straight from the bog is ready to use immediately.

Any orchid that requires a fairly constant level of moisture seems to do well planted in moss. Masdevallias, odontoglossums and Colombian miltionias (*Miltoniopsis* species and their hybrids) grow better for me in potting mixes containing moss than they formerly did in pine bark. Disas, especially, grow better in moss than in other mixes.

Many growers prefer to use a mix containing both Sphagnum moss and crumbed polystyrene foam, generally in the ratio 2:1 or 1:1 by volume. It leads to improved drainage and also saves money. It's usual to cut the moss into 10 mm lengths before mixing it with the foam. I use 'straight' uncut moss for my Disas but prefer a moss/foam mix for most other orchids. Squeeze as much moisture as possible from the moss before use. Then it doesn't need to be packed so tightly in the pot, because it swells when the plant is subsequently watered.

Moss is an effective potting medium only when alive. It's important not to apply high concentrations of liquid fertilisers, as these will kill moss. I suggest no more than a quarter of the manufacturer's recommendation (150-200 ppm). Heavily chlorinated water and water containing high levels of salt also kill Sphagnum moss. Melbourne tap water is satisfactory but rainwater is better. For best results plants should be re-potted annually. Otherwise the lower levels of moss gradually die and become soggy, causing the mix to drain too slowly.

Sphagnum moss is an effective medium for striking cymbidium back-bulbs and those of many other orchids. It can also be used to encourage root growth in Australian native dendrobium keikis. Another use is to revive sick orchids. Plants that have lost their roots should be re-potted in moss in as small a pot as possible. After watering, the pot can be sealed in a plastic bag to conserve moisture, in which case no further watering is necessary. This treatment often leads to the growth of new roots. But not always – Sphagnum moss is a great potting medium but it can't work miracles!

GROWING PLEIONES by Alan Hope

Picture a potful of lipstick pink flowers, each with a striking trumpet-shaped labellum enhanced by delicate frilly edges. No, I'm not referring to a *Cattleya* but to *Pleione formosana*, the most common of the *Pleione* species grown in Melbourne. *Pln. formosana* is a delightful and easily grown orchid, particularly for the new grower. It is hardy, requires a minimum of attention and best of all grows cold. It is close to being the ideal orchid!

Pln. formosana from Taiwan (previously Formosa), China and parts of the Himalayas and South-east Asia, has an annual growth cycle reflecting a monsoon pattern of wet summers and cool dry winters. *Pleiones* flower in spring from the previous season's mature pseudobulbs. I have found that flowers of *Pln. formosana* grown in shade-house conditions are at their best in late September-early October, just at the time of many of our spring shows. With some protection from strong winds and rain, flowers will last around two weeks. It is a different proposition for flowering plants kept indoors. About one week is all that you can expect in an air-conditioned or heated atmosphere, such as in our large shopping centres.



Pleione formosana 'McLean'
HCC/OSCOV

The growth cycle recommences with the completion of flowering. The new pseudobulb develops quickly as the single leaf matures and some weak fertilizer at this time will help produce a nice plump bulb. By autumn the old, previously flowered bulb will start to darken in colour and eventually become quite soft and spongy. This is a natural part of the growth cycle and is no cause for alarm. As *Pln. formosana* is deciduous, leaves will also start to turn yellow-brown by early May and will eventually fall as the colder winter weather sets in.

Culture:

The *Pleione* plant is rather small with its single leaf being approximately 200 mm long and 50 mm wide, and of similar shape, colour and texture to the leaves of a *Lycaste*. The leaves attract some leaf chewing grubs, snails and slugs, but otherwise appear largely pest-free. A few snail pellets and diligence helps to control these pests.

If the potting mixture is sound and the dormant pseudobulbs are not too cramped, the bulbs can be left in the pot for spring flowering and a further growth cycle. Otherwise, the pseudobulbs should be knocked out of the pot in early winter. These are cleaned up by removing the old shrivelled pseudobulbs, together with any husks and dead leaves, and either repotted in fresh compost or stored in a dry place in an open mesh bag and repotted prior to the new growth buds appearing in late winter.

When repotting try to group the mature pseudobulbs in the pot in order to provide a massed display of flowers in the spring. Firstly, trim the old roots to about 30 mm and use what remains to anchor the bulbs in the compost. The bulbs should

be planted on the surface of the mixture no more than 10 mm deep, ensuring the emerging buds are not covered. While many growers use shallow pots and a gravelly potting mix, what is essential is excellent drainage. *Pleiones* like plenty of water during the summer, but avoid sodden conditions. Some chunks of polystyrene in the bottom third of the pot will help drainage.

I have found a 3:1 mixture of old shredded tree-fern, fine bark, and coarse gravelly sand makes a suitable compost. A small amount of leaf mould or peat moss is also helpful in holding moisture over summer and adding fibre to the mix. Six-month Osmocote® pellets and/or Hoof and Horn® or similar can be added to provide additional nutrients.

The repotted pseudobulbs should be watered and then placed in a dry position prior to their flowering in the spring. Pots can be kept dry throughout winter by placing them in a polystyrene fruit box under the north-facing eaves of your house. This aspect will provide good light while protecting the plants from strong winds and rain. Recommence light watering when growth starts and return the pot to the shadehouse or bushhouse.

Propagation:

As well as one or more pseudobulbs being produced during the growing season, two to three small bulblets are likely to develop on the top of the old pseudobulb. These bulblets can be collected in late autumn and planted together in a separate community pot. As the bulblets take around three years to reach flowering size they can be left in the pot until reasonably large sized pseudobulbs are formed.

Varieties and Hybrids:

Pln. formosana has a number of varieties which provide a range of flowering times and colours. *Pln. formosana* 'Alba' and 'White Beauty' are nice early whites, while 'Oriental Jewel', 'Oriental Splendour', 'Serenity' and 'Julie Collins' provide shades of pink through to darker mauve/purple.

Various hybrids with *Pln. formosana* in their parentage are also available. *Pln. Versailles* 'Buckleberry' is a fine example, being a deep, mauve-pink colour. Interestingly, *Pln. Versailles* (*Pln. formosana* x *Pln. pogonioides*), the first of the *Pleione* hybrids, was only registered in 1966. More recently new hybrids such as *Pln. Wenya*, *Pln. Burrator*, *Pln. Diller* and *Pln. Europa*, which have species other than *Pln. formosana* in their parentage, have been registered and these would be well worth-while growing.



Pleione Versailles



***Pleione Tongariro* 'Thalia'
HCC/OSCOV**



Orchid Culture Notes for November

November is the start of the dry months, temperatures are generally warm with the odd hot day but heatwaves are uncommon. Light levels are reaching their maximum intensity towards month end and humidity levels decrease. Plants as a rule are in rapid growth phase. It is also the time to take great care in protecting these vital new growths as without these there will be fewer flowers. Damage to these growths comes from many different quarters. Insect damage to soft chewable growths is common with caterpillars and aphids high on the most wanted list. Water lodging in the growths will rot leaves and take out the developing flower nodes in some varieties. Thrips abound in the dryness that November offers. These tiny sap sucking insects will retard a new growth the same as they damage flowers. *Sarcochilus* are prone to attack and November is a prime month. Distorted flowers and browning of the edges are signs of thrip.

Fertiliser will also burn out these growths and the burn marks leave the plant open to fungal infection as well as being unsightly. A couple of stray slow release fertiliser pellets will do this. Then of course with the repotting and division that takes up a lot of time at this time of the year it is the common factor of human error that will knock off a growth.

Some growths get caught up in sheaths as they grow and must be helped along a bit and others come out looking like one of those brown wrinkly dogs. This is called accordion pleating and is usually a sign of dryness. Once this occurs it cannot be reversed. If one of your growths start growing at a weird angle they will require some training to get them growing upright and this also assists in keeping the plant neat and improves the flowering display.

Inspect those plants that suffered heat damage last year as I feel this year we are heading for another extreme Summer. These plants should be grouped together if possible so they can be moved if the weather turns very hot. No point leaving them where they burnt last year. As a last effort you may need to bring them inside or somewhere cool. It's a small chore but worth it for your plants sake.

Division of most plants should be completed by now and our main focus now is on providing our plants with the assistance they need during this rapid growth phase. Feeding should be mostly high nitrogen for the *Oncidiums*, *Cattleyas*, *Zygopetalums*, *Cymbidiums* and *Paphiopedilums*. Native orchids still preferring low nitrogen feeds to avoid sappy, fungal prone poor flowering canes. Always water plants prior to feeding, adhering to the golden rule of never feeding a dry orchid. Try to give plants a good flush weekly as well and if possible use rainwater. Soluble fertilisers contain salts and when the water evaporates it leaves these salts behind. Too much can be harmful to the roots and consequently the plant. Check the surface of the mix or the drain holes of your pots. That white stuff is salt!

Not every plant in a collection will receive the same amount of water. Some will be covered by another plants leaves and receive very little. Feel the weight of a few pots and if they are light due to missing out on water, move them so they don't miss out. Dry thirsty plants won't flower well and will soon be attacked by every mite and scale you have in the shade house.



Orchid Culture Notes for November Cont...

My watering ritual is a good drenching late afternoon but with enough left in the day so most plants are dry overnight. I will do a light misting first thing in the morning when I do my daily inspection. Mounted epiphytes may get an extra watering during the day if very hot. Remember some pots will dry out faster than others, as will some mixes. Placement will also be a factor with hanging plants drying out at a much faster rate. The rule here is not to water every plant the same amount every day. What might be enough for one will flood another. This is particularly important when growing a large number of different genera.

Foliar feeding is also recommended during the growth season. This is particularly important to mounted plants. I tend to balance my feeding with organic and inorganic fertiliser and tend to be weaker in the feeding strength than those in pots. Many of these plants are species orchids and as such are a little more sensitive. When foliar feeding, don't forget the undersides of leaves as this is where their stomata are (breathing pores). Fertiliser is absorbed via these pores. That's one reason why we water first. The plants when watered open up these pores.

After flowering we find our terrestrial orchids will be drying out. Watering will be reduced to an occasional mist to keep the mix just slightly moist. It will soon be time to start thinking about repotting them but I leave that until January. Any later and they are usually on the move again and I do not want to damage any developing shoots.

On the subject of avoiding damage, if you have to divide a Cattleya or an Oncidium, now is a great time to do it. The new growths will be well under way and should be showing new roots. When divided now these roots will continue to grow into the mix and feed the plant without too much setback unless your division was too small. If you leave it too late these roots will grow too long and will most likely be damaged in the process. If damaged then they won't feed the plant as well and it will suffer. So much so flowering could be a non-event for this season.

That will do for November. It is hard to believe another year is nearing the end!

Steve Howard

SCOCSA COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOMINATION FORM

Please use this form to nominate new committee members.

Nominee's Name

Proposed by

Seconded by

Position Nominated for

Nominee Accepted

Please complete and hand to Secretary "Marilyn Buckerfield"
Nominations must be received by the close of the December Cultural Meeting

ORCHID CLUBS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA **General Meeting Times**

THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Whilst COVID restrictions are in place the Club meets on the Second Monday of the month at RSL Hall, 4 Prince George Parade, Colonel Light Gardens. at 8.00p.m.

THE DAYTIME CHAPTER: meets at the Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton on the second Thursday of the month at 2.00p.m.

THE SOUTHERN REGION: meets at Carrickalinga House, 17-19 Torrens Street, Victor Harbor at 2.00p.m. on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

THE ORCHID CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA: meets at 8pm in The Enfield Community Centre, 540 Regency Road, Enfield on the 1st Thursday of the month.

Daytime Group: meets from 2.00p.m. to 4.00p.m. in the Enfield Community Centre, 540 Regency Road, Enfield on the 2nd Friday of the month.

THE MURRAY BRIDGE AND DISTRICT ORCHID CLUB: meets at 1.45pm in the Seventh Day Adventist Hall, corner Myall Avenue and Standen Street, Murray Bridge on the 4th Sunday of the month.

NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICTS ORCHID SOCIETY: meets in St. Philip's Church Hall, Galway Avenue, Broadview from 7.30p.m. on the 3rd Thursday of the month.

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ORCHIDACEOUS SOCIETY: Meets at the Adelaide West Uniting Church Hall, 312 Sir Donald Bradman Drive, Brooklyn Park from 7.30p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

THE NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA: meets at 7.30p.m. at St. Matthew's Church Hall, Bridge Street, Kensington on the 4th Tuesday of the month.

THE CYMBIDIUM CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Meets at 7.30p.m. at Burnside Community Centre, 401 Greenhill Road, Tasmore on the 4th Wednesday of the month.

Our Affiliated Clubs:

The Murray Bridge and Districts Orchid Club.

The Orchid Club of S.A. Inc.



AFFILIATED CLUBS

Murray Bridge and District Orchid Club Inc.
Orchid Club of South Australia

If unclaimed please return to
P.O. Box 314 Oaklands Park S.A. 5046



**People who submit articles to the Club for inclusion in our Gazette express
opinions which are not necessarily those of the Club.**

**No guarantee is provided to anyone using the ideas & opinions expressed in
these articles.**

**Items must be delivered to the Editor by the second Thursday of each month.
E. & O. E.**