



THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SA INC.

# Gazette

April 2025

Patron: Coralie Hills FAOC  
President: Michael Willoughby

## AT A GLANCE

The April General Meeting of the South Coast Orchid Club will be held on Wednesday 2nd April 2025 at 8.00 pm. at the Marion-Warradale Uniting Church Hall, Corner of Township Road and Church Crescent. Our Guest Speaker will be Phil Steer speaking on Oncidiinae orchids, how to grow them and the various varieties available..



**LEARNERS' GROUP:** There will be a Learners' Group Meeting at the April Meeting at 7.15pm. All members are welcome to attend. Bring your problems / plants for discussion.

**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 on Thursday 10th April 2025 at 2.00pm at the Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton. Our Guest Speaker will be Vicky Cooper talking about "What is an Orchid Keiki and a practical demonstration of what to do with it. This will be followed by an Easter Afternoon tea provided by the Club.

**SOUTHERN REGION:** The next meeting will be Sunday 20th April 2025 2.00 pm at Carrickalinga House, Victor Harbor. Guest Speaker will be Roger Herraman talking about Easy to Grow Orchids. Roger will be bringing plants for sale.

**NEUTROG FACTORY TOUR:** On Wednesday 16th April 2025 at 10.00 am, members are invited for a tour of the Neutrog Factory at 288 Mine Road Kanmantoo. The tour includes a 45min bus tour around the site, a laboratory tour, a presentation and morning tea. It is essential that you contact Anne Steer to book as numbers are limited by Neutrog. Phone Anne on 0418 840 427.

**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.

**DEADLINES FOR NEXT GAZETTES**  
27 April and 25 May

**Website:** <http://www.scocsa.net>  
**E-Mail:** [scocsa@outlook.com](mailto:scocsa@outlook.com)  
**Address:** PO Box 1060, Flagstaff Hill SA 5159  
ABN 83 245 384 076





## **YOUR COMMITTEE FOR 2025**

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	Michael Willoughby	0479 162 527
<b>SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT:</b>	Alan Miller	
<b>TREASURER:</b>	Anne Steer	0418 840 427
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	Graham Smith	0428 818 586
<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	Oui Ju	
	Richard Crinion	
	Marilyn Buckerfield	
	Phil Steer	
	Carolyn Ponsana	
	Malcolm Mangelsdorf	

### **NON COMMITTEE POSITIONS:**

<b>Registrar</b>	Phil Steer	0438 891 612
<b>Editor</b>	Christine Robertson	0438 363 940
<b>Photographer</b>	Neil Cooper	
<b>Convenor S. R. Group</b>	Chris Heysen	0419 386 769
<b>Convenors Daytime Chapter</b>	Alan Miller	0434 052 676
<b>Convenor Main Learners Group</b>	Graham Smith	

### **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	2025 Michael Willoughby

### **SUBSCRIPTIONS:**

Subscriptions for 2025 are now due. There will be no increase in subscriptions for 2025. We do value your membership and seeing you at meetings each month.

#### **RATES – One membership covers all groups**

<b>Family Membership</b>	<b>\$38.00</b>
<b>Single Membership</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>
<b>Junior Membership</b>	<b>\$22.00</b>

#### **Rural and Interstate Membership**

<b>Family Membership</b>	<b>\$34.00</b>
<b>Single Membership</b>	<b>\$28.00</b>

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

**Account No.: 545457040**



## President's Message

Wasn't it nice to finally see something drop from the sky that we have not seen for some time and those of us that collect rainwater may it not be too long until our tanks are full. This month we welcome Phil Steer who will be presenting Oncidiinae at the main meeting, Phil has put together an interesting and informative presentation focussed on local conditions.

Our Autumn Show is upon us, approximately seven weeks away. We will be at the Seaford Central Shopping Centre again this year. Let us put on a fantastic display for the public as they really appreciate the effort made by the club. If you can help in any way to make it a successful show, please see Anne or myself at the Main April meeting. All help is fully appreciated. The dates and times for put in, judging and the show are given elsewhere in this Gazette.

The Show season starts with the Autumn Show (Fri 9<sup>th</sup> of May). Trophys that are awarded are W.A. Young Trophy for Champion of Autumn Show, H. & B. Viney Trophy for Best Cattleya at Autumn Show and P.C. Loke Trophy for highest aggregate points at all three Shows. We need all the flowering plants available to put on a colourful display for the public, more details re the Autumn Show will appear in this Gazette.

The South Australian Regional Orchid Council will be holding the 2025 SA Orchid Fair on the King's Birthday Weekend 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> June at the Campbelltown Community Centre, 172 Montacute Road, Rostrevor.

The Club's Winter Show is on the weekend of 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> July (put in 11<sup>th</sup> July) at the Marion Warradale Uniting Church Hall. Time to start looking for your potential Prize winners and Champions.

I will be away for the April meeting and leave you in the very capable hands of our Senior Vice President Alan Miller.

Successful growing & showing

*Michael Willoughby*



## Happy Birthday .....

**TREVOR STUTLEY, LAURIE CARTER,  
MALCOLM MANGELSDORF,  
CORAL TILLMANNS, GRAHAM FEAR,  
MARGIE BROWN, CHRIS HEYSEN**



Is your name in the Birthday Book ?? Please see Anne Steer



## **ORCHID CALENDAR 2025**

### **APRIL MAIN MEETING:**

Wednesday 2nd April 2025 8.00 pm  
Marion-Warradale Uniting Church Hall, Cnr of Township Rd and Church Crescent.  
Guest Speaker Phil Steer speaking on Oncidium Orchids.

### **COMMITTEE MEETING**

Wednesday 9th April 2025 7.30 pm  
The Southern, South Road, St. Marys

### **DAYTIME CHAPTER**

Thursday 10 April 2025 2.00 pm  
Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton.  
Guest Speaker: Vicky Cooper. What is an Orchid Keiki and a practical demonstration of what to do with it.

### **NEUTROG FACTORY TOUR**

Wednesday 16th April 2025 at 10.00 am,  
Members are invited for a tour of the Neutrog Factory at 288 Mine Road Kanmantoo. The tour includes a 45min bus tour around the site, a laboratory tour, a presentation and morning tea. It is essential that you contact Anne Steer to book as numbers are limited by Neutrog. Phone Anne on 0418 840 427.

### **SOUTHERN REGION MEETING**

Sunday 20th April 2025 2.00 pm  
Carrickalinga House, Victor Harbor  
Guest Speaker: Roger Herraman: Easy to grow Orchids. Roger will bring plants for sale. Learners' Group Meeting at 1.15 pm

### **AUTUMN SHOW**

Thursday (Put In) 8th May to Saturday 10th May 2025  
Seaford Shopping Centre

### **SA ORCHID FAIR**

Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th June 2025  
Campbelltown Community Centre 172 Montacute Road Rostrevor

### **VISIT TO JANE & DON HIGGS ORCHID HOUSE**

Sunday 29th June 2025 11.30 am onwards.  
Visit Jane & Don's Orchid Collection at Myponga and have a club BBQ Lunch. More details in a later Gazette

### **WINTER SHOW**

Friday (Put In) 11th July to Sunday 13th July 2025  
Marion-Warradale Uniting Church Hall. Cnr Township Rd and Church Crescent, Marion.

### **SOUTHERN REGION SHOW**

Wednesday (Put In) 20th August to Friday 22nd August 2025  
Victor Central Shopping Centre, Victor Harbor

### **SPRING SHOW**

Friday (Put In) 26th September to Sunday 28 September 2025  
Marion-Warradale Uniting Church Hall. Cnr Township Rd and Church Crescent, Marion.

## **VIRUS TEST KITS AVAILABLE**

The Club now has Virus Test Kits available for sale to our members. They cost \$8.00 They will be available at the meetings.





## Product Program

Neutrog has advised of the online ordering cut off dates for **2025**

### WINTER 2025

Cut off for online orders: April 14th 2025

### SPRING 2025

Cut off for online orders July 14th 2025

### SUMMER 2025

Cut off for online orders October 13th 2025

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Phone No. 8538 3500 email: [www.neutrog.com.au](http://www.neutrog.com.au)

## TROPHY WINNERS FOR 2024

The Editor would like to sincerely apologise to Lyn Heysen and Dudley Huxtable for crediting the trophy winners to the wrong people in last month's Gazette. I am so sorry. The correct photos and captions are included here.



**Lyn Heysen**

**Dudley Huxtable**

**Warren Yelland**

### 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](mailto:kloval@westnet.com.au)

Mobile: 0438 363 940

Phone: (08) 8536 3948

Mail: PO Box 454, Strathalbyn SA 5255

# Invitation to Members

## A day at the Orchid Farm!

Dear Member,

A cordial invitation is extended to you to come and see some premium orchids and how they are grown in the cooler climes of Myponga in SA.

This is the property of our own Judges, Jane and Don Higgs, who will welcome any interested member and show them how they grow their prized specimens.

This is an event not to be missed if you want some truly practical tips and tricks of the trade.

This will be held on the **29<sup>th</sup> June 2025 from 11:30 a.m.** onwards. A flyer with all the information will be available at each meeting of the three divisions of the club.

Undercover BBQ lunch, tea and coffee supplied.

### **AUTUMN SHOW**

**Friday 9th May to Saturday 10th May 2025**  
**SEAFORD CENTRAL SHOPPING CENTRE**

The Committee needs the assistance of the members to volunteer to help on the Trading Table. Sell your surplus plants on the Trading Table, ask Anne for swing tickets and selling sheets.

**Reminder:** to sell your plants at the Show and to display your plants you must be a financial member and you must have owned your plant for a least 6 months.

**PUT IN:** Thursday 8th May, 5.00 pm for set up of display area - help is needed.  
 Plants for Display and Plants for Trading Table when set up is completed.

**TAKE OUT:** Saturday 10th May at 5.00 pm.

**JUDGING:** The plants will be judged in-situ in the display.

Please help make our Autumn Show a success by bringing in all your flowering plants. Ribbons and prize money are back.

**MOST IMPORTANT:** The Show Marshall will ring any member if for some reason he feels that any plant may be showing signs of distress.

**TRADING TABLE:** As well as members' plants for sale, we will have a range of Phalaenopsis, Oncidium, and Australian Native Orchids for sale.

## AUTUMN SHOW SCHEDULE 2025

CARD CLASSES NOT FOR PROMOTION – CARD ONLY	PROMOTIONAL CLASS	GENERA & DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONS (PRIZE MONEY)
<b>Australian Native.</b> Epiphyte Species. Epiphyte Hybrid. Terrestrial Species. Terrestrial Hybrid. Specimen, Seedling.	Best Australian Native	Champion Australian Native
<b>Cymbidium.</b> Majority of flowers > 90mm. Majority of flowers 60-90mm. Majority of flowers <60mm. Species, Specimen, Seedling.	Best Cymbidium	Champion Cymbidium
<b>Paphiopedilum.</b> Standard. Non Standard. Species, Specimen, Seedling.	Best Paphiopedilum	Champion Paphiopedilum
<b>Laeliinae.</b> Standard >100mm. Standard <100mm. Cluster. Non Standard. Species, Specimen, Seedling.	Best Laeliinae	Champion Laeliinae
<b>Oncidiinae.</b> Oncidium Hybrid <60mm. Oncidium. Hybrid >60mm. Species, Specimen, Seedling.	Best Oncidiinae	Champion Oncidiinae
<b>Zygopetalinae.</b>  Zygopetalinae Hybrid. Zygopetalinae Species. Specimen, Seedling.	Best Zygopetalinae	Champion Zygopetalinae
<b>Phalaenopsis.</b> Standard. Non Standard. Species, Seedling.	Best Phalaenopsis	Champion Phalaenopsis
<b>Dendrobium.</b> (other than Aust. Native) Hybrid, Species, Seedling.	Best Dendrobium	Champion  Any Other Genus
<b>Vandaeae.</b> Standard. Non Standard. Species, Seedling.	Best Vandaeae	
<b>Any Other Genus.</b> Hybrid.	Best	
Species, Specimen, Seedling.	Any Other Genus	
THE GRAND CHAMPION IS SELECTED FROM GENERA CHAMPIONS		
Trophies :		Champion Seedling
W A Young : Trophy for Grand Champion		Champion Species
H & B Viney : Trophy for Champion Laeliinae		Champion Specimen
P C Loke : Trophy for highest aggregate at 3 Shows		Division Champions

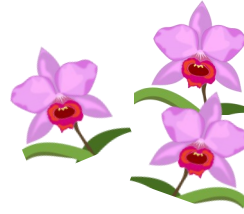
## EXHIBITORS' RULES FOR SHOWS

1. All exhibitors must be financial members of the South Coast Orchid Club of South Australia Incorporated, and you must have owned your plant for at least 6 months..
2. Entries are free.
3. Exhibitors are bound by the Constitution, Rules, By-Laws and Special Show Rules of the Club.
4. The opinion of the judges is final and binding and no objections or discussions regarding results will be considered, with one exception, which is an infringement by an Exhibitor of any of the Club's Rules, By-Laws or Show Rules. Any objection in this case must be lodged with the Club Show Marshall/Secretary.
5. The Club accepts no responsibility for any loss, damage or infection suffered by any plant or blooms exhibited.
6. The Club reserves the right to photograph any of the exhibits.
7. In all matters regarding the arrangement and conduct of the show (with exception of judging) the Show Marshall/Secretary is the ruling authority.
8. No plants suspected by the Club Virus adjudicators of being infected with virus will be eligible for competition and such plants will be completely isolated from all other plants.
9. The exhibition areas will be closed during the judging. No exhibitors, the public or members other than the Show Marshall/Secretary, Judges of the Club, Associate Judges and other persons appointed to assist in judging will be allowed to remain in the exhibition area during this period.
10. Non-exhibitors are requested not to congregate in the exhibition area prior to judging so that officials can arrange plants and perform other necessary duties.
11. Plants must be labelled with the coloured labels provided by the Club with the exhibitor's number and name of plant. These are available from the Show Marshall/Secretary or his/her nominee.
12. Exhibitors are to ensure that all labelling be neatly and correctly performed in accordance with the procedure laid down on orchid Nomenclature and Registration.
13. All plants benched for judging at the show must be made available to be in the Club display.
14. All exhibits must be benched by the nominated time on the nominated day for judging. The nominated day and time will be published in the Club Gazette in the month prior to the Show.
15. Exhibits must not be removed before nominated time on the nominated day at the end of the Display. The nominated day and time will be published in the Club Gazette in the month prior to the Show.
16. Exhibitors unable to remove their own plants from the show should provide the person so doing with a letter of authorization.
17. Damage caused in transit to the show should be reported to the Show Marshall/Secretary or Registrar of Judges prior to judging.
18. If, in the opinion of the judges, a plant is not worthy of an award or prize in any specified section, then none shall be given.

## PREPARING ORCHIDS FOR SALE

1. Select the plants that you want to let go.
2. Clean all pots. Wipe them over with a damp cloth to remove all white residue or salt from the pots. If these pots have been recycled from somewhere else, please make sure all advertising and price stickers are all cleaned off.
3. Check all stakes and add more if necessary and re-tie.
4. Remove old brown husks from bulbs and remove weeds, snails, scale etc.
5. Remove all dry ends on the leaves and shape to a point.
6. Wipe leaves over with a mixture of milk and water (1 part milk to 10 parts water). Do not overdo the milk by adding extra as the fat in the milk will clog the pores in the leaves which will then yellow off and die.
7. Water all plants 2-3 days before, not on the morning that you are bringing them in. This water really makes a mess on our clothes, tablecloths and the floor.
8. Get plant sales sheets and plant price tags from Treasurer before hand. The sales sheet is a carbonless duplicated sheet, so both sheets are to be used together. Press down firmly on a hard surface to imprint on the second page. The original and duplicated sheets must be lodged with plants. On the top left hand corner of the page, print your name. On the right hand side write in your club member number, Rule a narrow column down the left side of the page. This column is for the plant number 1-30. On the right hand side you need a column a bit wider for the selling price of the plant. The centre section is for the name and colour eg *Cym. Without Peer 'Soft Touch' (pink)*. Be reasonable with the pricing, not greedy. Either you want to sell it or you don't. Take into account the number of spikes and condition of the plant. If you are not sure of pricing, ask some one.
9. Next write your labels. It's a good idea to do both sides of the tag. Your member number goes on the left hand side and the plant number on the right hand side. Circle the plant number. Write your price under these numbers. As you put your tags on the plants, double check that the prices and numbers on the tags match those on your sales sheets.
10. When you bring your plants in, they must be checked off by another person against what you have written on your sheets. You will be given one sheet back along with payment for sales but you may wish to write out another copy for yourself to keep in the meantime. You can help with the checking off by reading out the numbers and price while the person checking checks this Information off against what is on your sheets. If there is a discrepancy, it needs to be attended to and another ticket written out if need be.





# March Results List

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

## Open Division

### Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

54 Sarco. Belmont Rose 'Disney' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

### Laeliinae - Cluster

57 Ctt. Valentine Day 'March' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

58 Ctt. Valentine Day 'Osborne' Peter Haltis (442) 2

### Laeliinae - Non Standard

59 Pcv. Golden Peacock Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

60 [Rlc. Makaha Gold x Rth. Karina Millett] x B. Peter Haltis (442) 2

### Laeliinae - Species

61 Psh. cochleata Peter Haltis (442) 3

### Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm

55 C. Mini Purple 'M-Expo 84' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 2

### Laeliinae - Standard under 100mm

56 Rlc. Rosella's Lollipop Jane & Don Higgs (1302) 2

### Oncidiinae - Hybrid < 60mm

63 Onc. Aka Baby 'Raspberry Chocolate' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

64 Brsdm. Golden GAmine 'White Knight' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 2

65 Milt. Cogniauxiae Peter Haltis (442) 1

### Oncidiinae - Hybrid > 60mm

62 Milt. Goodale Moir 'Golden Wonder' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

### Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

73 Phrag. Acker's Beauty Jane & Don Higgs (1302) 3

### Orchid Seedling - any Genera

74 Paph. Vanguard Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

75 Paph. primulinum Var. purpurescens Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 2

76 Gptm. Arlene Armour x Z. Kiwi Choice John Seidel (101) 1

### Paphiopedilum - Non Standard

66 Paph. (Voodoo Magic x Red Swift) Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

67 Paph. Vanguard Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 2

### Paphiopedilum - Species

68 Paph. concolor Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

69 Paph. dianthum Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 2

70 Paph. primulinum Var. purpurescens Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 1

### Phalaenopsis Species

72 Phal. fasciata Jane & Don Higgs (1302) 3

### Specimen Species or Hybrid

77 Milt. Goodale Moir 'Golden Wonder' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

78 Milt. Cogniauxiae Peter Haltis (442) 2

79 Psh. cochleata Peter Haltis (442) 1

### Zygopetalinae - Hybrid

71 Gptm. Arlene Armour x Z. Kiwi Choice John Seidel (101) 3

## First Division

### Laeliinae - Non Standard

46 L. anceps x C. Gaston Bultel Laurie & Susan Carter (1303) 2

48 Rlc. Waianae Leopard 'Ching Hua' Laurie & Susan Carter (1303) 1

### Laeliinae - Species

49 B. cucullata Laurie & Susan Carter (1303) 3

### Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm

47 C. Hawaiian Wedding Song 'Virgin' Phil and Anne Steer (514) 3

### Oncidiinae - Hybrid < 60mm

50 Onc. Real Touch Beth Stronach (836) 3

51 Gom. Moon Sahdow Laurie & Susan Carter (1303) 2

52 Ons. Wildcat 'Bobcat' Phil and Anne Steer (514) 1

### Zygopetalinae - Hybrid

53 Gptm. Starburst 'Parkside' Laurie & Susan Carter (1303) 3

## Second Division

### Cymbidium 60 - 90mm All colours in Non-std

42 Cym. Valentine's Love 'Leanne' Graham & Janette Smith (217) 3

### Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm

40 Rlc. Bernadine Kennedy 'White Juwet' Ralf Brandt (159) 3

41 C. Roungnapa 'Fancy Warm Welcome' Graham & Janette Smith (217) 2

### Oncidiinae - Hybrid > 60mm

43 Milt. Guanabara Coral Tillmanns (212) 3

44 Brsdm. Orange Delight 'Hilo Sunrise' Ralf Brandt (159) 2

### Zygopetalinae - Hybrid

45 Z. Unknown Pauline McLean (1053) 3

## PLANT COMMENTARY – MARCH 2025

A good start to the year. Another strong showing of quality plants across all three divisions. We had 38 plants across the three divisions.

### Orchid of Open Division & Plant of the Night

The plant of Open Division and Plant of the Night was *Milt. Goodale Moir 'Golden Wonder'* grown by Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju.

The plant was a large specimen with golden, brown & white flowers standing out from the foliage. The plant commanded central position on the bench and it was rather difficult to go past it. All of the flowers were clear of blemishes and still fresh. A terrific specimen.

Congratulations Michael & Oui



**Orchid of Open Division  
& Plant of the Night**  
*Milt. Goodale Moir 'Golden Wonder'*  
Grown by Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju  
Photos Jane & Don Higgs



### Orchid of Second Division

The plant chosen by the Judges was a beautiful Cattleya, *R/c. Bernadine Kennedy 'White Juwet'* grown by Ralf Brandt.

This was a smallish plant carrying two large standard shape flowers in crystalline white with a yellow highlight around the pollen cap. A very nice flowering.

Congratulations Ralf.

**Orchid of Second Division**  
*R/c. Bernadine Kennedy 'White Juwet'*  
Grown by Ralf Brandt  
Photos by Jane & Don Higgs

## PLANT COMMENTARY – MARCH 2025 cont ...

### Orchid of First Division

The plant of First Division was grown by Beth Stronach and was *Onc. Real Touch*. It was originally benched as *Onc. sphacelatum* but after some detective work we considered it to be *Onc. Real Touch*.

All of this aside it was an outstanding plant and quite unusual as it had two secondary spikes originating off an older spike that had been cut. The plant was growing very happily on a mount with the flowers standing tall of the foliage. Lovely flowers with a bright, large yellow labellum with brown tonings on the remaining segments.

Well done Beth.



### Orchid of First Division *Onc. Real Touch*

Grown by Beth Stronach  
Photos Jane & Don Higgs

Thank you to our Judges for a job well done!  
Good Growing !

**Phil Steer** Registrar



### Seedling of the Night *Paph. Vanguard*

Grown By Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju  
Photos Jane & Don Higgs





## DAYTIME CHAPTER

### Thursday 13th March 2025



**Hi Everyone,**

Members of the daytime group enjoyed a relaxing and educational visit to the home of Phil and Anne Steer. Phil and Anne generously provided an overview of their extensive orchid collection sharing their knowledge and demonstrating the practical ways they manage watering, fertilising and potting their plants. Many thanks to Phil and Anne for their hospitality and opening their home for our group.

Many thanks to everyone for their contributions to afternoon tea and to Patty for supplying a birthday cake for three birthdays all celebrated on the same day. Thank you to Jeanette Beck for your kind donation to the raffle table.

**Lucky Name Badge:** Josie Ogrowsky  
**Birthday of the Month:** Patty Abell

**Lucky Seat Number:** Marilyn Buckerfield

**Popular Plant of the Day:** *Miltonia* Guanabara grown by Coral Tillmanns

Returning to our regular meeting at Lou Kesting Hall commencing at 2.00pm on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April, Our Guest Speaker will be Vicky Cooper, Vicky's topic this month is "What is an Orchid Keiki?"

At the conclusion of the meeting members are invited to stay for an Easter themed afternoon tea provided by the Club.



**Next Meeting : Thursday April 10th - 2.00 pm**

**Lou Kesting Hall, Off Broadway, South Brighton**

**Guest Speaker: Vicky Cooper speaking on "What is an Orchid Keiki" plus a practical demonstration of what to do with them.**

*Alan Miller*

0434 052 676

### **VIRUS TEST KITS AVAILABLE**

The Club now has Virus Test Kits available for sale to our members. They cost \$8.00  
 They will be available at the meetings.







## SOUTHERN REGION MEETING Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Convenor, Chris Heysen, opened the main meeting at 2:00 pm welcoming the 22 members present. And welcome to our guest speaker, Phil Steer. Today Phil will be talking about and demonstrating how to mount orchids.

**Apologies:** Elsie Clifford, Marg Yelland, Roger Buddle and Di Helier.

**Guest Speaker:** Phil gave us a great talk about mounting orchids. Many of the orchids we grow are epiphytic or lithophytic i.e. in nature they live naturally in the forks of trees or attached to their branches or, in the case of lithophytes, in rock crevices etc. They are therefore often happier when mounted on similar materials than when potted into what for them is a less natural potting mix. This applies particularly to the *Oncidium* alliance but also to Australian native *Dendrobiums* and even to some *Cattleyas*, *Phalaenopsis* and *Sarcochilus*. Many different materials can be used for mounts including bark, timber (so long as it's not been treated with preservative), cork, or even brick.

Phil then gave us a demonstration of the techniques he uses when mounting several Australian native *Dendrobium* *kiekies*. Many thanks, Phil for another interesting and useful presentation.

**Birthday Prize:** Marilyn Jelfs

**Lucky Name Badge:** Heather McDonald.

**Lucky Door Prize:** Robin Clayton

### **Announcements:**

- The visit to Neutrog has been booked for April 16<sup>th</sup>. We need to be at Neutrog by 10:00am.
- Graham Smith has organised with Bunnings for us to perform a series of orchid demonstrations at their weekly Garden demonstrations at Marion, Seaford and Noarlunga. He has also approached Bunnings Victor Harbor to do likewise. This will be a great way to promote the club and to interest members of the public in orchids.

**Trophy Presentations:** Phil Steer presented trophies to Warren Yelland (and in her absence, Marg Yelland) for Second Division Aggregate points for 2024. Well done!

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

**Judging:** was carried out by Jane and Don Higgs. **Judges Commentary:** Phil Steer.

**Next meeting** – Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> April (Easter Sunday). Guest speaker will be Roger Herraman who will be talking about easy to grow orchids. Roger is a regular speaker at our Club and is always interesting.

The meeting closed at 3:10pm and was followed by everyone joining in to share a cuppa and a selection of cakes and biscuits.

*Chris Heysen* 0419 386 769

## Next meeting – Sunday April 20th

**Our Guest Speaker will be Roger Herraman who will speak on  
“Easy to Grow Orchids”**

**Roger will also be bringing plants for sale.**

## February Results List

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

### First Division

#### **Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm**

Rlc. White Wonder

Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)

3

#### **Cymbidium under 60mm**

Cym. Penny Serenade

Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)

3

#### **Oncidiinae - Hybrid < 60mm**

Ons. Everglades Elegance

Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)

3

### Second Division

#### **Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm**

Rth. Adelaide Silver 'Aurora'

Margaret & Warren Yelland (350)

3

#### **Cymbidium 60 - 90mm**

Cym. Valentine's Love 'Leanne'

Graham & Janette Smith (217)

3

#### **Phalaenopsis - Hybrid**

Phal. [Hsinying x (Hsinying City x H. Lip)]

Margaret & Warren Yelland (350)

3

## MARCH PLANT COMMENTARY - SOUTHERN REGION

We still had only a handful of plants benched, those were however good quality.

### Orchid of Second Division & Plant of the Day

The plant chosen by the Judges was a lovely Phalaenopsis grown by Warren & Margaret Yelland .

It was *Phal.* [Hsinying x (Hsinying City x Hsinying Lip)]

The plant was well, grown and a lovely inflorescence of pink flowers with a darker shade around the labellum. The seven flowers were nicely ranked on a gentle arching spike.

Congratulations Warren & Margaret



### ORCHID OF SECOND DIVISION & PLANT OF THE DAY

***Phal.* [Hsinying x (Hsinying City x Hsinying Lip)]**

Grown by Margaret & Warren Yelland

Photos Jane & Don Higgs

## MARCH PLANT COMMENTARY - SOUTHERN REGION cont ...



### ORCHID OF SECOND DIVISION & PLANT OF THE DAY

*Phal.* [Hsinying x (Hsinying City  
x Hsinying Lip)]

Grown by Margaret & Warren Yelland  
Photos Jane & Don Higgs

### Orchid of First Division

The plant of First Division was grown by Genny & Dudley Huxtable

This was a nice early Cymbidium, *Cym. Cricket* x *Cym. floribundum*. This crossing has now been registered as *Cym. Penny Serenade*.

A very nice pendulous inflorescence of some 15 flowers of yellowy / green tones enhanced by a lovely red spotted over white labellum. The plant had three other spikes coming along so it should be flowering for some time yet.

Well done Genny & Dudley

### ORCHID OF FIRST DIVISION

*Cym. Penny Serenade*

Grown By Genny & Dudley Huxtable

Photos Jane & Don Higgs



Thank you to Jane & Don for the judging & commentary.

Good Growing !

*Phil Steer* - Registrar

### VIRUS TEST KITS AVAILABLE

The Club now has Virus Test Kits available for sale to our members. They cost \$8.00 They will be available at the meetings.



## CYMBIDIUM PACESETTERS by Julian Coker

Of the many thousands of cymbidium seedlings flowered over the last 100 years, a number have been so superior at the time that they have a permanent place in the story of cymbidium development and a place in the cymbidium 'hall of fame'. Some are chosen for this article.

Hybrid cymbidiums have existed for over 100 years. Prior to 1900, the species pool was very limited and, because hybrids depend on the genetic make-up of the parent species for their own characteristics, hybrid variation was also limited. *Cymbidium tracyanum*, *Cymbidium hookerianum*, *Cymbidium eburneum* and *Cymbidium lowianum* (in its three major varieties, var. *lowianum*, var. *i'iansonii* and var. *concolor*) were the most important species available and these provided limited opportunities in hybridising. From 1900 however the scene was dramatically changed with the discovery of *Cymbidium insigne* (in its many coloured forms) and *Cymbidium parishii* or *sanderæ*. *Cymbidium insigne* proved the vital key for the full development of the hybrid cymbidium.



*Cym. tracyanum*



*Cym. hookerianum*



*Cym. eburneum*



*Cym. lowianum*



*Cym. insigne*



*Cym. parishii*

Hybrids may be created by crossing any two cymbidiums that will produce seed. However, in serious programs, parents are selected carefully in an attempt to combine and complement desirable features in the progeny. It must be realized that there is considerable variation between different cultivars of the same species and with the vast numbers of plants being introduced by the collectors, there was ample opportunity for the major orchid houses of the time to select those that were superior. At this stage all species were diploid. Tetraploid hybrids only resulted later from chance chromosome doubling during their development. Currently Andy Easton is creating a gene pool of superior tetraploid forms of the species and is following the early breeding lines with these, so we will soon see new super varieties of the early primary hybrids and others.



In the course of cymbidium breeding, probably the greatest hybrid cymbidium of all time appeared in 1922 from the crossing of *Cym. Eburneo-lowianum* 'Concolour' with *Cymbidium insigne* 'Sanderæ'. It was of course *Cym. Alexanderi* 'Westonbirt', flowered by H. G. Alexander. It became the cornerstone parent for producing quality hybrids until recent times. It was the first chance tetraploid and owes many of its superior characteristics to this. We still grow *Cym. Alexanderi* 'Westonbirt' and although it is not up to show standard now, it is still a very useful cut flower and, by maintaining it in cultivation, we and others are preserving one of the greats from the past. There were many other crosses of *Cym. Alexanderi* made from the early 1900s, some of them albinos, and a number of clones from these also played an important part in the history of hybridising.



***Cym. Alexanderi*  
'Westonbirt'**



***Cym. Girrahween* 'Enid'**

Of the Australian-flowered (English-bred) cymbidiums, one of the greatest was *Cym. Girrahween* 'Enid'. With *Cym. Flamenco* as one parent and *Cymbidium lowianum* as the other it also set a standard of excellence in Sydney that was unsurpassed for many years. By today's standards it is an ordinary, small, pleasantly conformed flower, but we must remember that sixty years ago when it first flowered, it was the best. Unfortunately, unlike *Cym. Alexanderi* 'Westonbirt', it was not a breeder and so it does not leave a line of progeny.

Also in the 1950s another great orchid appeared; *Cym. Burgundian* 'Chateau'. It received the highest accolades then and still remains an orchid that deserves a place in any collection. Its parentage, registered as *Cym. (Remus x Babylon)* has been contested, but when well flowered, it is still capable of winning on the show bench with its flowers having a conformation and colour that is difficult to surpass. Unfortunately it is also a non-breeding triploid and so although hybrids were attempted with hexaploid conversions, no outstanding progeny has resulted.



***Cym. Burgundian* 'Chateau'**



***Cym. Narela* 'Jennifer Gail'**

*Cym. Narela* 'Jennifer Gail' (*Cym. Balkis* x *Cym. Whyba*) is another evergreen triploid that carried all before it in the 1970's and 1980's. Of perfect form and being almost concolour pink it was virtually unbeatable at shows when flowered well. It is another plant that should be in every collection, as its aesthetics of form and free-growing, free-flowering nature make it highly desirable.

Hybridising is a slow process with 5-7 years required between generations. Unfortunately few tetraploid clones were available until recently. When used, they were commonly crossed with diploids, so that much of the progeny resulted in infertile triploids. Recently, the farsighted breeding programs of Alvin Bryant, Andy Easton and others has provided a comprehensive pool of fast-growing, free-flowering, colourful tetraploids that will start a new renaissance in cymbidiums. These new seedlings, with their great diversity of form, colour, size and new features, can now be seen in leading cymbidium nurseries.

We can look back on the great parents and the great clones but how do we choose the greats of the future. Obviously we must look at the new seedlings appearing on the show bench throughout the year. Cymbidium flowers can now be seen in any month, given the expanded flowering season of these new hybrids. To mention parents is difficult, as with the pace of development, many of the very latest parents will be unknown to most growers. However a few that are proven large-flowered cymbidium parents include: *Cym. Valley Zenith* for **greens**; *Cym. Coraki* 'Margaret' 4N and its progeny, *Cym. Tracey Reddaway*, *Cym. Atlantic Crossing* and *Cym. Autumn Crisp* for **yellows**; *Cym. Paradise Wonder*, *Cym. Stargard*, *Cym. Wonder Arc*, *Cym. Fancy Free*, *Cym. Baltic Snow*, *Cym. Solana Beach* for **whites**; *Cym. Red Beauty* 'Netty', *Cym. Hazel Tyers* 'Santa Maria', *Cym. Radiant Harry*, *Cym. Sylvan Khan* for **pinks**; *Cym. Yowie Flame*, *Cym. James Toya*, *Cym. James Tee Kirk*, *Cym. Lancashire Rose* for **reds**; and *Cym. Pink Champagne* 'Featherhill', *Cym. Cronulla* 'The Khan', *Cym. Mighty Mouse* 'Minnie', *Cym. Red Beauty* 'Carmen' 4N and *Cym. So Bold* 'and Bountiful' for other colours and combinations.



*Cym. Valley Zenith*  
(greens)



*Cym. Tracey Reddaway*  
(yellows)



*Cym. Baltic Snow*  
(whites)



*Cym. Hazel Tyers* 'Santa Maria'  
(pinks)



*Cym. Yowie Flame*  
(reds)



*Cym. Cronulla* 'The Khan'  
(other colours)

For intermediates, *Cym. Dolly* 'Featherhill' 4N is currently the most versatile parent, producing both coloured orchids and albino types. *Cym. Golden Elf* 'Sundust' 4N will become important for the ultra earlies. *Cym. Vogelsang* 'Eastbourne' 4N introduces the *Cymbidium devonianum* line and the progeny of *Cymbidium sanderae* 'Emma Menninger' 4N, such as *Cym. Anna Szabo* 'Geyserland' and *Cym. Music Box Dancer* 'Ballerina', will lead to superior white development. In miniatures, *Cym. Ruby Eyes* 'Red Baron' 4N, *Cym. Miss Muffet*, *Cym. Olymilum*, and hybrids of *Cym. madidum* or *Cym. suave* will produce special progeny when complemented appropriately.

These clones and grexes only mention a few of the very special new parents. Other factors being introduced into hybridising at present include bizarre spots, stripes and splashes, dusting, perfume and characteristic new forms. Cymbidiums have a proud past with special clones including those mentioned previously. We are now entering an exciting new era that will result in an ever-increasing number of these special clones, so be part of it. The opportunity has never been so exciting.

## WHERE DO APHIDS GO IN WINTER? by Brian Milligan

Fortunately for our orchids, they all die of cold, especially in frosty weather. But if that's so, how can aphids reappear in spring? It's because the crafty devils make sure that they lay a good supply of eggs in nooks and crannies before they die, that's why. These eggs, unlike their parents, are unaffected by the cold and remain dormant until the warmer days of spring arrive.

When the eggs hatch, all of the young aphids are wingless and female. After a few days they begin to bear live young, with no intervention or assistance from male aphids (there are none at this stage!). The rate of reproduction is incredible – it has been calculated that if all survived, the progeny of a single aphid after ten generations would weigh more than the entire human population of China!! Actually, that calculation was done many years ago – it may take eleven generations today!

Fortunately for both us and our plants, aphids have many enemies, as well as being sensitive to the cold. They are eaten by birds and also by a variety of other insects. Ladybirds, in particular, are particularly fond of aphids and can eat 30-40 per hour! What greedy little devils ladybirds are, which explains why they're sold commercially as predators of aphids.

Aphids are sap suckers. The aphid drills a hole in the soft new foliage with her beak and then sucks the sap, which is freely available at that stage. She has greater difficulty as the growth ages, because it's harder for her to drill a hole, and there is also less sap in the older growth. Many aphids break their beaks and then die of starvation.

As the cooler days of autumn approach, there is a change in the life cycle. Both male and female aphids are born at this time. Both are born with wings, presumably to provide greater mobility for their sexual adventures. These females lay eggs, not live aphids, and so the species prepares itself to survive another icy winter.

Orchids are readily infested by aphids (except in winter), which soon reach plague proportions unless control measures are implemented. Some growers squirt them off the foliage when watering as a control measure. But this practice fails to dislodge all of them and the survivors soon breed replacements. It's often argued that "they don't eat much" but this isn't strictly true – they probably suck sufficient sap to retard the development of the new growths.

More important, however, is the possibility that they can transfer virus from one plant to another – the virus recently found in native dendrobiums is almost certainly transmitted by aphids. Maybe the aphids are wingless in spring and summer but they can certainly fly about in autumn. Also, if you hang your plants from vertical wire mesh, as I do, the aphids can fall from one plant to lower ones, regardless of the season. Therefore I spray my plants with an insecticide as soon as any aphids appear. Almost any insecticide is effective. For small outbreaks I use one of the many pressure pack sprays available at plant nurseries, taking care to hold the can at least 300 mm from the plant (to avoid frost burn caused by rapid evaporation of the propellant). For larger outbreaks I use Orthene®, a wettable powder, applied as an aqueous solution; unfortunately, it is not available from nurseries and is only sold in kilogram amounts at horticulturalist supply outlets.

Much of the information in this article was gleaned from an article written by the late Crosbie Morrison over fifty years ago. Many readers of my vintage will remember Crosbie Morrison for his fascinating nature talks on radio in the 1940s and 1950s. At that time one referred to one aphid, but two aphids. However, newer dictionaries give the option of aphid or aphid for a single individual, while a group of them can be called aphids or aphides.





## Orchid Culture Notes for April

Autumn is still a growth time in the orchid house except unlike Spring where many of our plants are commencing growth we are now at maturity for many. The days still remain warm and the humidity increases but the colder evenings remind us that Winter is not far away. Many of our plants will mature this month, some in readiness for flowering in the next month or so and others that will go into a rest phase until the lengthening days of Spring stir them into action. An important factor for these flowering and resting plants is a general reduction in water and increase in light. This means we remove additional shading provided to combat the fierce Summer sun, raise our plants off the ground and provide cover to keep out the cold Winter rain.

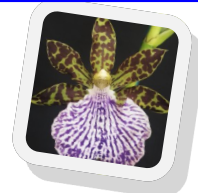
Some orchids can handle exposure to winter rain without too much trouble with the humble *Cymbidiums* and *Zygopetalums* not requiring much protection from the elements of winter unless they are in spike when some supplementary cover would be advantageous. However, there are some orchids which will certainly struggle, if not die when confronted with single digit minimums and wet roots over Winter. Many of our *Cattleyas*, *Oncidiums* and even the hot/cold *Dendrobiums* have a distinct dislike of these conditions and whilst they will not kill the plant, it will turn their roots into a brown/green soggy mess. Come Spring the poor old plant has to start all over again and direct energies to grow new roots at the expense of the new growth. This is a common cause of that orchid you grow that gets smaller every year.

Most of our **Terrestrials** will be up and away this month and even the first *Pterostylis* from the Cauline group will be in flower. Increase watering gradually and pull out small weeds as they appear. Make sure toppings remain in place and watch out for any erosion of the pots caused by rain dripping from above.

Native **Dendrobiums** will all start to show signs of Spring flowers as the flowering nodes split open later this month. If you have a few hot/cold hybrids then you, like me, will be looking at the first early flowers already. I love the hot/cold hybrids. The flowers are larger, certainly more colourful and best of all they last a long time compared to the Spring natives. Treat like your normal native epiphytes except keep a bit drier over winter and hang them when they get to flowering size and you will have good success. Watering in April can still be weekly for your Australian native epiphytes and keep feeding them as well. I do give them some liquid potash this time of year as well as some liquid dolomite to sweeten the mix. Given some of my natives spend a long time in their pots, after a while the mixes break down and become acidic and the dolomite helps neutralise this acidity.

When **feeding your orchids**, water first and then a little later on the same day or the next you can fertilize. Feeding a dry plant is not usually recommended as the fertilizer can damage roots. Keep an eye out for aphids and looped caterpillars this month. There are still plenty of plants in new growth and the tender new leaves are great bug tucker. These same leaves are susceptible to fungal problems from now as well. Warmth and increasing humidity are key factors in the development of fungal problems this month. A precautionary fungicide treatment about now and a morning watering plan as opposed to late afternoon will keep these problems to a minimum.





## Orchid Culture Notes for April cont...

April should see those with a few **Zygopetalums** in their collections looking at a forest of spikes emerging from new growths. Don't let them dry out, keep protected with a fungicide now and follow the morning watering ritual. Throw a few snail pellets in each pot as well. Feeding wise should be one that is high potash based. This has two benefits, improves the flower colour but also aids in the strengthening of the plant leaves cell walls which in turn gives more protection against fungal attack which will become more prevalent once the rains start.

I let my **Oncidiums** tell me what they are up to. If they have green tips then they still require moisture and feeding. Some will seal off later this month as they enter their resting stage and these will be kept drier. I find the varicosum type, those ones with the big yellow skirts follow this trend and will suffer root loss if kept wet over winter. Knowing the plants origins are a distinct advantage. Oncidiums for example can grow in deserts, humid jungles or high up in the mountains. That's a huge variance in temperature, humidity, light and even seasonal factors. This means you cannot keep all Oncidiums dry over Winter. Sure that applies to some but not all. This is where some reading up of the species involved is required to work out how they need to be cultivated.

This year our Autumn flowering **Laeliinae** group have been earlier than normal, possibly spurred on by a cooler than normal January. Once flowering has finished they will appreciate a rest but for now keep moist and fed with a potash based feed. Some even sprout new roots now to absorb some moisture and nutrition prior to dormancy. If this is the case keep watering. If the roots seal then start reducing it. Spring flowering plants will be in active growth heading towards maturity as well. These usually require protection over Winter and slightly warmer temperatures to perform well. Feeding would still be along the lines of high potassium. Again, the plants roots are a giveaway as to what the plant requires. Green or red tips indicate they are growing, sealed tips mean they are resting or a slug got you!

*Steve Howard*

## **GROWING PLEIONES by Michael Pender**

The genus *Pleione*, long neglected by most orchid growers, has become popular in recent years thanks to a few people who have specialized in its culture and breeding. The genus, comprising about ten species, originates in Nepal, northern India, Bhutan, Burma, southern China, Laos and Thailand. The various species are found growing at altitudes between 1000 and 3000 m in forests with a high summer rainfall and a cold, dry winter. Most species flower in spring, although *Pleione praecox* is exceptional as it flowers in autumn. The flowers, borne singly, are similar to cattleya flowers in shape. They measure up to 100 mm across and are borne on stems up to 180 mm tall. The most commonly grown species is *Pleione formosana* (syn. *P. bulbocodioides*), which has flowers varying from white to mauve in colour. *P. formosana* 'White Beauty' and 'Clare' have white flowers while *P. formosana* 'Blush of Dawn' and 'Gladysdale' are mauve. Commonly grown hybrids include *Pleione* Tongariro, *P. Versailles* and *P. Shantung*.



***Pleione formosana* 'McLean'  
HCC/OSCOV**

I have successfully grown *P. formosana* and its hybrids in Melbourne for many years and my method of cultivation is described below. Each bulb lives for only one year, in that time producing one or more replacement bulbs or bulbils for the following year. The flowers appear in spring, followed by the leaves, which grow throughout summer and develop new bulbs at their bases. In autumn the leaves first turn yellow and then brown, before they fall from the dormant bulbs. Re-potting should be carried out during winter while the bulbs are still dormant. The bulbils that grow from the top of the old bulbs should first be removed. Some may have already fallen onto the top of the old mix. These bulbils, each about the size of a match, may still retain their solitary strap-like leaf. These leaves often have a curl at their end, which catches in everything, so I usually rip the tip off with my thumbnail. The bulbils are then saved for re-potting at a later date.



**Pleione formosana 'McLean' HCC/OSCOV**

The larger bulbs are next shaken free of their old compost. The old bulbs will be spent and withered but will have one or two new, firm bulbs attached. Carefully separate the bulbs and discard the old ones. The new ones will still have a clump of roots attached. I sever these roots close to the bulb with my trusty thumbnail before re-potting, which may be carried out immediately or deferred for several weeks. The bulbs may be safely stored for a month or two if kept cool and dry. I prefer to re-pot them before they show signs of new growth.

Pleiones are best potted in a general-purpose garden compost or potting mix. I do not use orchid potting mixes, because they drain too freely and don't retain enough moisture. A simple mix of leaf mould and river sand is quite satisfactory. I sort the new bulbs by size before re-potting. The larger ones (those most likely to flower) are planted in pots for exhibition or sale, while the medium-sized and small bulbs are planted in foam boxes for ease of handling. These pots or boxes are half-filled with compost and then a little slow-release fertilizer is added before they are topped up with compost. The bulbs are next pressed into the compost to one third of their depth. A light watering helps to settle the bulbs. No further watering is needed until the new growth appears, although rain will do no harm. Pleiones are best grown under 50% shade cloth. Protection from blackbirds may be needed to prevent them from uprooting the bulbs in their search for worms. The bulbils may be planted in rows in foam boxes or simply sprinkled on top of the compost.

The frequency of watering should be gradually increased as the flowers and new growths develop. Take care not to disturb the bulbs while watering, as it's easy to damage the new roots that are growing from the base of the new growths. Regular watering and occasional liquid fertilizing during summer will ensure the development of large bulbs for the next year.



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

**THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA:** In 2024, the Club will meet at the Marion - Warradale Uniting Church Hall, Cnr. Township Road and Church Crescent, Marion. at 8.00p.m. on the first Wednesday of the Month

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month.

**THE ORCHID CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA:** meets at 8pm in The Enfield Community Centre, 540 Regency Road, Enfield on the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month.

**THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ORCHIDACEOUS SOCIETY:** Meets at the Plympton Community Centre, 34 Long Street, Plympton from 7.30p.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month.

**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL ORCHID COUNCIL:** Represents all clubs in South Australia on the Australian Orchid Council. Meets three or four times a year, at which meetings all clubs are represented by a delegate or a proxy delegate. SAROC conducts the **SA Orchid Fair** in June each year.



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**If unclaimed please return to  
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**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.**