



THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SA INC.

Gazette

September 2025

Patron: Coralie Hills FAOC
President: Michael Willoughby

AT A GLANCE

The September General Meeting of the South Coast Orchid Club will be held on Wednesday 3rd September 2025 at 8.00 pm. at the Marion-Warradale Uniting Church Hall, Corner of Township Road and Church Crescent. Our Guest Speaker, Michael Willoughby, will be giving a demonstration of preparing plants for the Show bench and Monthly meetings.

LEARNERS' GROUP: There will be a Learners' Group Meeting at the September 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 11th September 2025 at 2.00pm at the Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton. Our Guest Speaker will be Jane Higgs sharing her recent visit to The Garden of The Sleeping Giant in Fiji.

SOUTHERN REGION: The next meeting will be Sunday 21st September 2025 2.00 pm at Carrickalinga House, Victor Harbor. We will be having a workshop, with Chris Heysen, Warren Yelland and Dudley Huxtable as panel to answer questions about growing orchids on the South Coast. Learners' Group will start at 1:15pm

NEW MEMBERS: The Club would like to welcome a new member Chen Li. We hope that your time with the Club will be a happy one and that you 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.



DEADLINES FOR NEXT GAZETTES
22 September and 26 October

Website: <http://www.SCOCSA.com.au>
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[President@ SCOCSA.com.au](mailto:President@SCOCSA.com.au)
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ABN 83 245 384 076



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YOUR COMMITTEE FOR 2025

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

NON COMMITTEE POSITIONS:

Registrar	Phil Steer	0438 891 612
Editor	Christine Robertson	0438 363 940
Photographer	Neil Cooper	
Convenor S. R. Group	Chris Heysen	0419 386 769
Convenors Daytime Chapter	Alan Miller	0434 052 676
Convenor Main Learners Group	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 Deonno *	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:

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 Account No.: 545457040
(Use your grower number for Reference)

We do value your membership and seeing you at meetings each month.

President's Message



A great and informative meeting was enjoyed by the members at the August main group. It was presented by Dr Callan Farrell from Down Under Native Orchids. He educated the members on the Rhizobium group of Australian Native Dendrobiums (the terete leaved ones) and the direction of hybridising Down Under Native Orchids are taking to introduce more colour into these plants.

The recent Southern Region Group annual show has been a success once again. Many thanks to all those who played a part in contributing to the organising, participating, and running the show. It was a beautiful display and a very successful show. Congratulations to the Grand Champion of the Show, *Cym. Kiwi Midnight 'Geyserland'* grown by Graham and Janette Smith and Reserve Champion *Ctt. Adelaide Ablaze 'Sunburst'* grown by Eileen Pinnock, two very well grown plants. Well done to all the winners and the Southern Region Group growers who to put on a great display at the show. Full details and photographs of the Show will be included in a future Gazette.

Our Spring Show is being held this year at the Marion Warradale Uniting Church Hall on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday 27th and 28th September. Put in is on Friday 26th September. Please check the Gazette for the put in and take out times and make your arrangements to suit if needed. This show is a great opportunity to sell any surplus plants that are in your collection. See what you can part with. See Anne for plant sales sheets and tags.

At this month's meeting we will have a demonstration of preparing plants for the Show bench and Monthly meetings by Michael Willoughby. The Southern Region Group will hold a requested workshop conducted by the members of the Southern Region Group and chaired by Chris Heysen answering questions about growing orchids on the South Coast. The Day-time group will hear about a recent visit to The Garden of the Sleeping Giant in Fiji by Jane and Don Higgs presented by Jane.

The Committee each year steps down from their positions and now is a good time to think if you can spare some of your valuable time as a member of our committee as it is very rewarding. Life memberships are awarded deservedly from time to time, a submission to the committee by November is required to give adequate notice to the members for voting at the Annual General Meeting in February 2026. Good wishes to those members who are on the sick list. We hope you are soon back to your normal living.

Successful growing & showing

Michael Willoughby



Happy Birthday

**DOROTHY CARRASSI, OUI JU,
SUE ZERBE, MICHAEL WILLOUGHBY,
RICHARD WILSON,
HELEN MCINTOSH, EILEEN PINNOCK,
RUSSELL GARDINER, MARG YELLAND**



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



ORCHID CALENDAR 2025



MAIN MEETING

Wednesday 3rd September 2025 at 8.00 pm
Marion-Warradale Uniting Church Hall, Cnr of Township Rd and Church Crescent, Marion. Our Guest Speaker Michael Willoughby, will be giving a demonstration of preparing plants for the Show bench and Monthly meetings.

COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 10th September 2025 7.30 pm
The Southern, South Road, St. Marys

DAYTIME CHAPTER

Thursday 11th September 2025 at 2.00pm
Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton.
Guest Speaker: Jane Higgs sharing her recent visit to The Garden of The Sleeping Giant in Fiji.

SOUTHERN REGION MEETING

Sunday 21st September 2025 2.00 pm
Carrickalinga House, Victor Harbor
We will be having a workshop, with Chris Heysen, Warren Yelland and Dudley Huxtable as panel to answer questions about growing orchids on the South Coast.

SPRING SHOW

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

RULES FOR PUT IN AT SPRING SHOW

Friday 26th September 2025

At the Marion-Warradale Uniting Church Hall.
Cnr Township Rd and Church Crescent, Marion.

Because of the congestion that occurred this year at the Winter Show at this venue, the Committee has approved the following rules for members who are placing plants in the Show for Display and Judging and Trading Table Sales.

It is important that the Judges have no restrictions on access to the plants for the Judging which starts at 6.00 pm.

The Rules are as follows:

1. Members putting in plants for display and judging should place their plants in the venue for the display team to organise and then leave as soon as possible.
2. Members supplying plants for the trading table must vacate the venue by no later than 5.30 pm unless prior arrangements have been made.
3. Only the judging and display personnel are to be in the venue after 5.30 pm.

We know that Members would want the put in of plants to be done speedily and efficiently enabling the judges to have a clear start for judging the plants, so your co-operation with these rules will be appreciated.

SPRING SHOW

Saturday 27th to Sunday 28th September 2025
MARION-WARRADALE UNITING CHURCH HALL
Cnr Township Rd and Church Crescent, Marion.

The Committee needs the assistance of the members to volunteer to help on the Trading Table. See Anne Steer if you are able to help. 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: Friday 26th September, 4.00 - 5.00 pm
 Plants for Display and Plants for Trading Table.

TAKE OUT: Sunday 28th September at 4.00 pm

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

PUBLIC VIEWING TIMES : Saturday: 9.00 am - 4.00 pm
 Sunday: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

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

TRADING TABLE: Please fill out a Sales Sheet and tags as normal for orchid plants. As well as members' plants for sale, we will have a range of Zygopetalums, Cymbidiums, Phalaenopsis, Oncidium, Cattleyas, Dendrobium speciosums and Australian Native Orchids New seasons crossings from Down Under Orchids for sale.

A separate Sales Sheet and tags with your initials and a number is needed for non orchid plants (cacti. Bromeliads, ferns, etc. and books).

If you have 20 or more NON-ORCHID Plants to sell, a fee of \$20 will apply and a separate table will be provided for you to man yourself.

TROPHYS AVAILABLE AT THE SPRING SHOW

Tony De Ionno & Toshy Trophy

For the Grand Champion of the Spring Show.

Ira Butler / Kevin Western Trophy

The Best Australian Native Hybrid in the Show will be eligible to be nominated for this award.

Bill Murdoch / Les Nesbitt Trophy

The Best Australian Native Species in the Show will be eligible to be nominated for this award.

Elsie Chisholm Trophy

For the Best Novelty Flower in the Show.

M Ng Trophy

For the Most floriferous plant at the Spring Show.

Noel Oliver Trophy

For the best *Dendrobium speciosum* in the Show.

SPRING SHOW SCHEDULE 2025

CARD CLASSES NOT FOR PROMOTION – CARD ONLY	PROMOTIONAL CLASS	GENERA & DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONS (PRIZE MONEY)
Australian Native ^^/++ Epiphyte Species - Red/Pink Epiphyte Species - Other Colour Epiphyte Hybrid - Red/Pink Epiphyte Hybrid - White/Cream Epiphyte Hybrid - Other Colour Terrestrial Species Terrestrial Hybrid Specimen, Seedling	Best Australian Native	Champion Australian Native
Cymbidium - over 90mm All Colours Species, Specimen, Seedling	Best Cymbidium Over 90mm	Champion Cymbidium Over 90mm
Cymbidium 60-90mm All Colours Species, Specimen, Seedling	Best Cymbidium 60-90mm	Champion Cymbidium 60-90mm
Cymbidium - Under 60mm All Colours Species, Specimen, Seedling	Best Cymbidium Under 60mm	Champion Cymbidium Under 60mm
Paphiopedilum. Standard Non Standard Species, Specimen, Seedling	Best Paphiopedilum	Champion Paphiopedilum
Laeliinae Standard > 100mm Standard < 100mm Cluster Non Standard Species, Specimen, Seedling	Best Laeliinae	Champion Laeliinae
Oncidiinae Oncidium Hybrid < 60mm Oncidium Hybrid > 60mm Species, Specimen, Seedling	Best Oncidiinae	Champion Oncidiinae
Zygopetalinae Zygopetalinae Hybrid Zygopetalinae Species Specimen, Seedling	Best Zygopetalinae	Champion Zygopetalinae
Phalaenopsis Standard Non Standard Species, Specimen, Seedling	Best Phalaenopsis	Champion Phalaenopsis
Dendrobium (Other than Aust Native) Hybrid Species, Specimen, Seedling	Best Dendrobium	Champion Any Other Genus
Vandae Standard Non Standard Species, Specimen, Seedling	Best Vandae	
Any Other Genus Hybrid Species, Specimen, Seedling	Best Any Other Genus	

THE GRAND CHAMPION IS SELECTED FROM GENERA CHAMPIONS

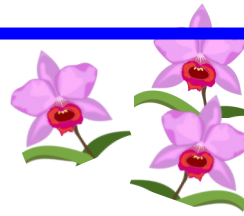
CHAMPION SEEDLING, CHAMPION SPECIES, CHAMPION SPECIMEN, DIVISION CHAMPIONS

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 benchted for judging at the show must be made available to the Club display.
14. All exhibits must be benchted 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.

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.



August Results List

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

Open Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

325 Den. Avril's Gold 'Leedham' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

Cymbidium 60 - 90mm All colours in Non-std

331 Cym. Jessie Blaze Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119) 3

Cymbidium over 90mm All colours inc Non-std

330 Cym. Royale Fare 'No. 5' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std

332 Cym. Templestowe Opal 'Heart on Fire' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

333 Cym. (Khairpour x erythraeum) Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 2

Garard / Western Trophy

347 Cym. (Khairpour x erythraeum) Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

Laeliinae - Cluster

328 Ctt. Adelaide Ablaze 'Richard' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

Laeliinae - Species

329 C. coccinea Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm

326 Rlc. Pink Empress Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

Laeliinae - Standard under 100mm

327 C. Dal's Elite 'BJ' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

Oncidiinae - Hybrid < 60mm

334 Pasr. Chian-Tzy Lovely 'CT-Goldmine' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

335 Onc. Tsiku Marguerite 'Chian-Tzy Dragon #1' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 2

336 Onc. Pacific Sunrise Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119) 1

Oncidiinae - Species

337 Cu. pulchella Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

343 Angcm. Veitchii Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119) 3

344 Angcm. Lemford White Beauty Ron & Irene Parish (477) 2

345 Angcm. Crestwood 'Tomorrow Star' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 1

Orchid Seedling - any Genera

346 Paph. villosum 'B' x self Ron & Irene Parish (477) 3

Paphiopedilum - Non Standard

339 Paph. Fanaticum Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

Paphiopedilum - Species

340 Paph. villosum Ron & Irene Parish (477) 3

341 Paph. villosum Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 2

342 Paph. venustum Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 1

Paphiopedilum - Standard

338 Paph. (Highland Ruby x Neridah) John Seidel (101) 3

First Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

316 Den. Aussie Victory 'Hillview' Phil and Anne Steer (514) 3

317 Den. Star of Gold 'Boronia' Phil and Anne Steer (514) 2

Cymbidium over 90mm All colours inc Non-std

319 Cym. Margaret Thatcher Beth Stronach (836) 3

Laeliinae - Non Standard

318 Ctt. Topaz Ruby Drop Phil and Anne Steer (514) 3

Oncidiinae - Hybrid < 60mm

320 Onc. Tsiku Marguerite Laurie & Susan Carter (1303) 3

Oncidiinae - Species

321 Cu. pulchella Beth Stronach (836) 3

Specimen Species or Hybrid

322 Den. Aussie Victory 'Hillview' Phil and Anne Steer (514) 3

323 Onc. Tsiku Marguerite Laurie & Susan Carter (1303) 2

324 Cu. pulchella Beth Stronach (836) 1

Second Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

301 Den. Coffs Bonza Ralf Brandt (159) 3

302 Den. Wasyli Janet Adams & Gordon Ninnes (1195) 2

Cymbidium 60 - 90mm All colours in Non-std

305 Cym. Pure Sarah 'Starburst' Jim Fogarasi (150) 3

306 Cym. Unknown Russell & Joy Gardiner (89) 2

307 Cym. Sundaani Felicia Graham & Janette Smith (217) 1

Cymbidium over 90mm All colours inc Non-std

303 Cym. Serene Splash 'No. 1' Pauline McLean (1053) 3

304 Cym. Sundaani Cadillac Dora Schrapel (200) 2



August Results List cont ...

Ref. No.			Points Awarded
Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std			
308	Cym. Kiwi Midnight 'Geyserland'	Graham & Janette Smith (217)	3
309	Cym. Templestowe Opal 'Heart on Fire'	Graham & Janette Smith (217)	2
310	Cym. Ruby Eyes 'Red Baron'	Coral Tillmanns (212)	1
Oncidiinae - Hybrid < 60mm			
311	Onc. Aloha Imagawa	Ralf Brandt (159)	3
312	Onc. Hawaiian Sunset	Ralf Brandt (159)	2
Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species			
314	Calanthe vestita	Ralf Brandt (159)	3
Paphiopedilum - Non Standard			
313	Paph. Leeanum	Janet Adams & Gordon Ninnes (1195)	3
Specimen Species or Hybrid			
315	Paph. Leeanum	Janet Adams & Gordon Ninnes (1195)	3

PLANT COMMENTARY FOR AUGUST

Orchid of Second Division

The plant chosen by the Judges was a beautiful Paphiopedilum grown by Janet Adams & Gordon Ninnes, *Paph. Leeanum*.

The plant was carrying 12 beautiful flowers. All of the flowers were standing tall above the lush green foliage with the flowers having lovely colour contrasts from the white tip of the dorsal to the brownish pouch.

Congratulations Janet & Gordon.



SEEDLING OF THE NIGHT
***Paph. villosum* 'B' x self**

Grown by
Ron & Irene Parish
Photo Neil Cooper



PLANT OF SECOND DIVISION
Paph. Leeanum

Grown by
Janet Adams & Gordon Ninnes
Photos Neil Cooper

First Division

The plant of First Division was grown by Anne & Phil Steer and was a large specimen Australian Native, *Den. Aussie Victory*.

The large plant was carrying multiple spikes of gold and maroon flowers with the spikes standing tall of the foliage.

Well done Anne & Phil

FIRST DIVISION
Den. Aussie Victory
 Grown by Anne & Phil Steer
 Photos Neil Cooper



Open Division and Plant of the Night

The plant of Open Division was an amazing *Angraecum Veitchii* grown by Vicky & Neil Cooper.

The plant was relatively small and was carrying two tall spikes, one with seven open flowers of glistening green & white flowers. There was a further spike with buds still to open. The flowers were quite stunning with pale green background segments highlighting a glistening white labellum.

Congratulations Vicky & Neil.

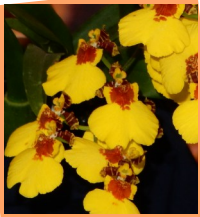


**OPEN DIVISION &
 PLANT OF THE NIGHT**
Angraecum Veitchii
 Grown by Vicky & Neil Cooper
 Photos Neil Cooper



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

Phil Steer
REGISTRAR



DAYTIME CHAPTER

Thursday 14th August 2025



Hi Everyone,

Our August daytime group of 14 members (2 apologies) welcomed our guest speakers Anne and Phil Steer. Members gained valuable information from Anne on how to prepare plants for judging covering plant and pot presentation, various labelling options and details required to assist in judging. Phil followed with an overview of the Clubs judging processes. He covered aspects of judging qualifications, the origins of grower's registration numbers, allocation of points within each division and ultimately advancing through each division to compete in open division. Many thanks to Anne and Phil for your time and extensive presentations.

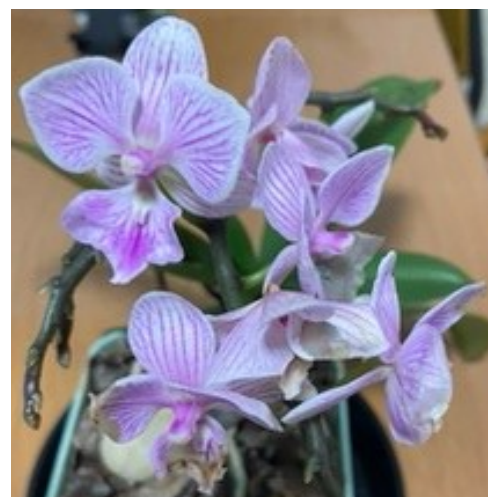


Guest Speakers Anne and Phil Steer demonstrating various presentations to assist in judging

Lucky Name Badge: Jeanette Beck
Lucky Door Prize: Margie Brown
Birthday of the Month: Jeanette Beck

Popular Plant of the Day:
Phalaenopsis Unknown
 grown by Coral Tillmanns

Many thanks to Coral and Josie for your valuable assistance and to everyone who donated raffle prizes and delightful afternoon tea.



Next Meeting : Thursday September 11th - 2.00 pm

Lou Kesting Hall, Off Broadway, South Brighton

Guest Speaker: Jane Higgs sharing her recent visit to The Garden of The Sleeping Giant in Fiji.

Alan Miller

0434 052 676



SOUTHERN REGION MEETING Sunday 17th August 2025

Convenor, Chris Heysen, opened the main meeting at 2:00 pm welcoming the 23 members present. A special welcome to Barbara Kirke – a visitor and now new member.

Welcome to our guest speaker, Ron Parish – and his wife Irene. Today Ron will be talking about the orchids that he grows. Many years ago we were both members of OCSA (in fact we once went on a houseboat holiday together with a number of other people from that club). I know that Ron grows a wide range of genera and that he is particularly focussed on species rather than hybrids. He has had a number of plants awarded.

Guest Speaker: Ron gave us a detailed presentation on two particular orchids that he grows – *Den. canaliculatum* and *Cym madidum*. *Den canaliculatum* has a huge colour range and particularly likes to grow on wooden mounts – in nature it is found mostly on the stems of *Melaleuca* trees. It is warm growing which means it does need some protection from the cold during our southern winters. Ron described how he is growing them for sale using 400mm lengths of PVC pipe rather than pots. He also showed us a *Cym. madidum* that had propagated naturally from seed on an Elkhorn plant in his orchid house. This particular Cymbidium seems to have a symbiotic relationship with Elkhorns as it is most commonly found in association with them in the wild. Coincidentally Ron had provided these same conditions in his own back yard. Many thanks Ron for a very interesting presentation.

Birthday Prize: Roger Buddle
Lucky Door Prize: Anne Steer

Lucky Name Badge: Graham Smith

Announcements:

This week is our Southern Region Show - once again in Victor Central. Put-in will be at 5pm on Wednesday 20th August with Take-out at 5pm on Friday 22nd August. We need helpers to set up the display and sales area prior to the Show and to take it down on completion. We also need assistance with both selling plants and keeping the display secure during the show period from 7 am to 9pm at night. A roster is circulating – please consider where you can help and add your name to the list. Anne has swing tags and sales sheets for those wanting to sell plants. Can I get an indication of how many plants you may be bringing to the show for display? And for sale? We also need some greenery – preferably ferns. Does anyone have any that they can assist with? If bringing put in a tag with your show number for identification.

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

Judging: was carried out by Phil Steer. **Judges Commentary:** Phil Steer.

The meeting closed at 3:05 pm 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 21st September. We do not have a guest speaker but will be running a workshop. It will most likely be myself, Warren and Dudley as an "expert" panel to answer questions from you guys about growing orchids here on the South Coast.

Southern Region August Results List

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

First Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Species

717	Den. Unknown	Eileen Pinnock (519)	3
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Cymbidium over 90mm All colours inc Non-std

715	Cym. Tethy's Robin	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
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716	Cym. (Cinnamon Wall x Strath Beauty)	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	2
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Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std

718	Cym. New Century	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	3
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719	Cym. Morialta 'Morialta Falls'	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	2
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720	Cym. Miss Muffet 'Mandurang'	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	1
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Second Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

705	Den. Jonathon's Glory	Margaret & Warren Yelland (350)	3
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Cymbidium 60 - 90mm All colours in Non-std

710	Cym. Valley Olympic 'Pink Perfection'	Margaret & Warren Yelland (350)	3
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711	Cym. Beau Guest 'Glen'	Bob Clayton (143)	2
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712	Cym. Chili Pepper 'Hot Stuff'	Graham & Janette Smith (217)	1
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Cymbidium over 90mm All colours inc Non-std

709	Cym. Khan Flame 'Tuscany'	Graham & Janette Smith (217)	3
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Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std

713	Cym. Janis Lin 'Emily Kate'	Bob Clayton (143)	3
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714	Cym. Maluka 'Baby Pink'	Bob Clayton (143)	2
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Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm

706	C. Cornelis' Love 'Jules'	Bob Clayton (143)	3
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Laeliinae - Standard under 100mm

707	C. Unknown	Heather & Ruth McDonald & Creedy (300)	3
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708	Rth. Adelaide Silver 'Aurora'	Margaret & Warren Yelland (350)	2
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CHAMPIONS AT SOUTHERN REGION SHOW

Photos Phil Steer



GRAND CHAMPION, CHAMP. SECOND DIVISION, CHAMP. CYMBIDIUM
Cym. Kiwi Midnight 'Geyserland'
 Graham & Jeanette Smith



RESERVE CHAMPION, CHAMP. FIRST DIVISION, CHAMP. LAELIINAE
Ctt. Adelaide Ablaze 'Sunburst'
 Eileen Pinnock

SOUTHERN REGION PLANT COMMENTARY

We are seeing the start to Cymbidium season with a number of nice examples benched.

ORCHID OF SECOND DIVISION

The plant chosen by the Judges was a lovely Cymbidium. This plant was an under 60mm (mini) *Cym. Janis Lin 'Emily Kate'* grown by Bob & Robyn Clayton.

A small plant carrying two inflorescences (one still to open). A lovely pendulous spike of 14 white flowers all evenly ranked and presented well. Flowers were a lovely white with a subtle lemon throat. One of the parents being Sarah Jean was a giveaway with the labellum curling under.

Congratulations Bob & Robyn

ORCHID OF SECOND DIVISION *Cym. Janis Lin "Emily Kate"*

Grown by
Bob & Robyn Clayton
Photo Phil Steer



FIRST DIVISION & PLANT OF THE DAY.

The plant of First Division and Plant of the Day was grown by Genny & Dudley Huxtable and was an outstanding specimen of *Cym. New Century*.

This plant was carrying seven lovely pendulous spikes evenly spaced around the pot. Each spike was carrying 10 + flowers. The flowers were a pale green/white with a soft pink splash across the front of the labellum. Another plant with Sarah Jean as a parent.

Well done Genny & Dudley.



ORCHID OF FIRST DIVISION & PLANT OF THE DAY *Cym. New Century* Grown By Genny & Dudley Huxtable Photo Phil Steer

Good Growing.

Phil Steer
REGISTRAR

Vanda (Neofinetia) falcata by Gary Backhouse

Vanda (Neofinetia) falcata is a charming little orchid found growing in nature in China, Japan and Korea. It was described in 1784 but was illustrated in the Japanese literature as early as 1728. It is a small, clumping vandaceous plant rarely growing higher than 120 mm, with curved leaves to 100 mm long. It produces short spikes that carry four to seven beautiful white flowers about 15 mm across, the most prominent feature being the long spur curving down from the base of the flower. The flowers have a perfume, which is strongest in the evening, to attract their moth pollinator. *Vanda (Neofinetia)* is a member of the subtribe Sarcanthinae and is related to Australia's native *Sarcochilus*, although the white scented flower with its long spur more closely resembles those of the genus *Angraecum*.



I purchased my plant as a small, single-growth division about 14 years ago and it has grown steadily, if slowly, since that time. In 2001 it had 17 spikes with about 90 flowers. As it always flowers in January, the challenge has been to keep the plant cool and shaded so that the flowers do not collapse prematurely on extremely hot days. One problem with a large dense plant is that the developing flower spikes can get caught up in the mass of roots and leaves, and so you need to be vigilant and disentangle any spikes before they become distorted.

I grow my plant in a shallow, glazed bonsai pot using a potting mix of large pine bark, stone and chopped wine corks, topped with smaller bark and stone; the plant sits well up on its potting mix. The thick rambling roots of this species dictate a coarse mix or a rock mount, so the mix must not be too fine. The plant is watered daily during hot weather over summer, twice weekly during autumn and spring and perhaps only monthly in winter. The plant is fed with liquid fertiliser about once a month between October and April. It is grown cold, together with my native dendrobium collection, in a protected position on the east side of my shade house, which has open sides and a fibreglass roof.

The common name 'Samurai Orchid' is derived from a connection with Japanese samurai culture. Samurai warriors apparently grew the plant as a symbol representing bravery, nobility and wealth. *Vanda (Neofinetia) falcata* has a long history in cultivation in Asia, and Japanese growers have developed many forms of this wonderful orchid, just as we have dozens of varieties of *Dendrobium kingianum* in Australia. There are tall, short and clumping forms, plants with long, short, flat, channelled or variegated leaves, and plants with white, cream, yellowish or pink flowers – even ugly tetraploid forms! Japanese growers apparently grow this species on a rock or upturned terracotta pot wrapped in Sphagnum moss. *Vanda (Neofinetia)* has been used in hybridising with other vandaceous genera including *Aerides*, *Ascocentrum*, *Phalaenopsis*, *Renanthera*, *Rhyncostylis* and *Vanda* but I don't grow these hybrids and know nothing about them.

Vanda (Neofinetia) falcata is a beautiful little orchid well worth a place in every orchid collection.

MULTI-FLOWERING PAPHIOPEDILUMS by Alan Hope

In recent years we have seen an increasing number of multi-flowering paphiopedilums on the show bench as grower interest increases, due to the expanding range of colours and forms, and to their greater availability. This is not to say that multi-flowering paphiopedilums are new, because a century or so ago many of the early hybridisers produced some stunning and desirable crosses that are still grown and sought after today. The resurgence in multi-flowering paphiopedilums follows the discovery of many new *Paphiopedilum* species that provide colours and shapes previously unknown to the orchid grower. In particular, *Paph. micranthum*, *Paph. armeniacum* and *Paph. malipoense* from China and *Paph. vietnamense*, *Paph. hangianum* and better forms of *Paph. delenatii* from Vietnam, are unique finds that have already had a huge impact on hybridising.

While the above are single flowering species, their crossing with multi-flowered forms aims to bring out the best of both parents. A recent catalogue from a local mail order orchid nursery lists around sixty new multi-flowering paphiopedilum hybrids for sale. Similarly, a review of the orchid magazines for new orchid hybrid registrations, provided by the Royal Horticultural Society, indicates an expanding worldwide quest to develop new and improved paphiopedilum hybrids, many of these being multi-flowering.

Although paphiopedilums may occasionally produce two or even more flowers on a scape, the true multi-flowering forms consistently produce either a sequence of flowers in which one flower is replaced by the next, or a number of flowers that open together to give a massed display. The sequential flowerers generally come from the *Cochlopetalum* Section of the genus *Paphiopedilum*, comprising *Paph. glaucophyllum*, *Paph. liemianum*, *Paph. moquettianum*, *Paph. primulinum*, *Paph. victoria-mariae* and *Paph. victoria-regina* (syn. *Paph. chamberlainianum*). While these species are rewarding to grow in their own right, the hybridisers have tended to concentrate on a few of these species for their desirable characteristics – for example, *Paph. primulinum* for its sequential yellow flowers, *Paph. glaucophyllum* and *Paph. moquettianum* for their shapely, colourful flowers, and the larger-flowered *Paph. victoria-regina* for flower size.



Paph. primulinum



Paph. glaucophyllum



Paph. victoria-regina

Most of these sequentially flowering hybrids tend to be strong growers with attractive flowers; because of their sequential flowering habit, they may remain in flower for months at a time. *Paph. primulinum* has been a parent to some of the more popular of these hybrids, including *Paph. Honey* (*Paph. philippinense* x *Paph. primulinum*), which was first registered in 1979 and remade many times since. *Paph. Honey* has yellow to green flowers with longer petals, taking after its *Paph. philippinense* parent. Other proven hybrids with *Paph. primulinum* as a parent include *Paph. Primcolor* (x *Paph. concolor*), *Paph. Prime Child* (x *Paph. rothschildianum*), *Paph. Elfin Charm* (x *Paph. fairrieianum*), *Paph. Mamie Wilson* (x *Paph. lowii*) and *Paph. Henrietta Fujiwara* (x *Paph. haynaldianum*). In turn, many of these primary hybrids have also made good parents.

***Paph. Honey******Paph. Primicolor******Paph. Prime Child******Paph. Elfin Charm******Paph. Mamie Wilson******Paph. Henrietta Fujiwara***

Another attractive hybrid, created using two sequentially flowering species as parents, is *Paph. Glaucolium* (*Paph. moquettianum* x *Paph. liemianum*). This primary hybrid has colourful and well-shaped flowers, some of the better clones having received OSCOV quality awards during the last few years.

***Paph. Glaucolium* 'Leonard'
HCC/OSCOV**



Mention was made earlier of some of the older crosses. Two such primary hybrids, made using a sequentially flowering species and a multi-flowering species as parents, are *Paph. Transvaal* (*Paph. chamberlainianum* x *Paph. rothschildianum*, registered in 1901), and *Paph. Vanguard* (*Paph. glaucophyllum* x *Paph. rothschildianum*, registered in 1921). Both produce excellent flowers that combine the best features of both parents. These two hybrids are worthwhile acquisitions, especially if you can obtain a division of an original plant; remakes are a good option but be warned that these crosses are slow growers so you will need to be patient until they eventually reach flowering size.

***Paph. Transvaal******Paph. Vanguard***

The range of multi-flowering paphiopedilums is much broader than the range of sequential types due to the relatively large number of multi-flowering species available for hybridising. Section *Coryopedilum* covers at least eleven species that include *Paph. philippinense*, *Paph. sanderianum*, *Paph. stonei*, *Paph. kolopakingii*, *Paph. glanduliferum*, *Paph. gigantifolium*, *Paph. randsii*, *Paph. wilhelminae* and *Paph. rothschildianum*, while Section *Pardalopetalum* includes *Paph. haynaldianum*, *Paph. lowii*, *Paph. parishii* and *Paph. dianthum*. All of these species have been used to a greater or lesser extent in hybridising, with *Paph. philippinense*, *Paph. stonei*, *Paph. rothschildianum*, *Paph. parishii* and *Paph. lowii* appearing more frequently. While their more frequent use is partially a function of time and earlier availability, their specific characteristics of shape, size, colour and petal length, including their multi-flowering character, were desirable attributes to the hybridisers.



Paph. rothschildianum



Paph. Saint Swithin

Paph. rothschildianum was used extensively in early hybridisation to produce some wonderful primary hybrids, including *Paph. A. de Lairese* (x *Paph. curtisii*, 1895), *Paph. Rolfei* (x *Paph. bellatulum*, 1901), *Paph. St. Swithin* (x *Paph. philippinense*, 1901) and *Paph. Julius* (x *Paph. lowii*, 1914). It was not until the late 1950s that additional sources of this species were found on Mt. Kinabalu and further hybridisation could commence. Most current nursery listings now provide many *Paph. rothschildianum* hybrids, including both the older types and many new crossings made with Chinese and Vietnamese species. These new species promise wonderful multi-flowering hybrids with the additional benefit that the *Paph. rothschildianum* parent is an intermediate grower and does not require the higher temperatures necessary for some of the other species.

Some other successful multi-flowering crosses include *Paph. Glaucopar* (*Paph. glaucophyllum* x *Paph. parishii*), *Paph. Angel Hair* (*Paph. Saint Swithin* x *Paph. sanderianum*), *Paph. Harold Koopowitz* (*Paph. malipoense* x *Paph. rothschildianum*), *Paph. Prince Edward of York* (*Paph. rothschildianum* x *Paph. sanderianum*), *Paph. Mem. Rolf Bolin* (*Paph. glaucophyllum* x *Paph. superbians*), and *Paph. Tony Semple* (*Paph. lowii* x *Paph. haynaldianum*).

There are many other multi-flowering crosses and, depending on your available space, you should try some. Most will grow into large plants and require extra space to ensure adequate light and air movement, and to accommodate the flower scape. I hang my plants in a light and airy position and avoid wetting their foliage during the cooler months. Some fertiliser is useful for these larger plants in the growing season but only if applied at half strength; flushing the pot regularly with water will help to reduce the build-up of salts in the mix.

The main pests are mealy bugs, slugs, snails and seasonal grubs. Mealy bugs are difficult to eradicate as they hide away and their eggs remain viable for some time. A systemic spray is probably best but follow-up is essential a few weeks later. Be careful to protect emerging flowers as the spray can damage them. To control slugs and snails place some snail bait in the pot, even when it is suspended, as these pests seem to be able to find a way to a choice bud wherever the pot is located. The same applies to grubs – continual vigilance, followed by appropriate treatment, is essential.

CULTURAL NOTES : HOW TO GROW AUSTRALIAN NATIVE DENDROBIUMS

There are over 1400 species of dendrobiums and related dockrillias to be found growing in nature throughout Asia and Australia. More than 60 species are native to Australia, most growing in coastal New South Wales and Queensland, although two species occur in Victoria and one in Tasmania. Many Australian native dendrobium species and their hybrids are suitable for growing in Victoria under shade house conditions or in a garden situation where they are sheltered from frost and direct sunlight. Over a thousand hybrids are now available, with flowers of nearly all colours, shapes and sizes.

POTTING. While a few species grow best when mounted on hardwood mounts or on tree fern slabs, the majority of Australian dendrobium species and hybrids grow well when potted in a 4:1-mix of pine bark (5-10 mm) and river gravel (5 mm). Black plastic squat pots with plenty of drainage holes are ideal. It is important not to use too large a pot – one that will comfortably accommodate the roots and allow enough space for two year's growth is large enough. Dendrobiums are best repotted after they have flowered, just as their new growths are appearing between October and early December. If their roots are in good condition, simply transfer the plant to a larger pot and fill in with new mix. If some of the roots show signs of decay, remove them and all old potting mix and repot in fresh mix.

LIGHT AND AIR. All dendrobiums grow and flower better if grown where they receive diffuse light (approximately 50% sunlight) for most of the year, full light during winter. They grow best if their pots can be suspended near the roof of the shade house so that receive good light and plenty of air movement. In summer, native dendrobiums require frequent watering, especially during hot weather. However, they should not be kept continually wet and grow best if the mix is allowed to dry briefly before being watered again. In winter, much less water is needed, once a week being enough for flowering-sized plants grown under cover.

FERTILISING. Australian native dendrobiums may be fertilised in two different ways or by a combination of both. One option is to apply granules of a slow-release fertiliser, such as Osmocote-Plus®, to the top of the mix in October (shake the pot so that the fertiliser enters the mix). The other is to apply a weak solution of a liquid fertiliser at fortnightly intervals between October and April. Use at only half of the manufacturer's recommended concentration. Potassium-rich fertilisers, such as Campbell's A®, generally result in better flowering.



Den. Jayden 'Sheen'
AM/OSCOV



Den. kingianum Mauve Master'
AM/OSCOV



Den. Anne's Rainbow Surprise
HCC/OSCOV

THE WARDIAN CASE by Brian Milligan

London surgeon Nathaniel Ward could have no idea of what would follow when in 1829 he found a chrysalis (butterfly cocoon), sealed it in a bottle, and set it aside to watch it hatch. The chrysalis never hatched but by next spring two tiny seedlings, a grass and a fern, had sprouted from the damp earth on which the chrysalis was lying. These seedlings continued to grow, sustained only by the moisture trapped in the bottle. Twenty years later, the fern was still alive!

Nathaniel Ward experimented with other plants in sealed glass containers and had great success with ferns, which otherwise died in the smoky atmosphere that prevailed in London during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Ward showed one of his fern-cases to the Linnean Society and thus began a hobby among the British gentility that by 1850 (after the punitive tax on glass had been repealed in 1845) had grown to full-blown "pterido-mania"! By then, almost every London drawing room contained a fern collection in a sealed glass case or 'Wardian' case, as it came to be known. Designs ranged from simple, square or round cases to elaborate affairs resembling Gothic cathedrals, Tintern Abbey and the Crystal Palace! By 1860 the Wardian case had run its course (in Victorian drawing rooms, at least), and was replaced by the home aquarium!

However, the Wardian case had a far bigger impact on horticulture than as a means of beautifying Victorian drawing rooms. The London nurseryman, Conrad Loddiges, was one of the first to appreciate its utility. He used a Wardian case to send a consignment of plants to Sydney in 1834, and was delighted to hear that they had survived the long sea voyage. The success of this venture led to the successful importation into Britain of many exotic plants, including orchids, from all corners of the globe using Wardian cases. One of the most important crops from which Britain benefited commercially was rubber. Large numbers of rubber tree seedlings raised at Kew Gardens from seed collected in Brazil were successfully transported to Malaya in Wardian cases. Within forty years Malaya had displaced Brazil as the world's major source of natural rubber. Eventually synthetic rubber replaced natural rubber for many uses but I believe that natural rubber is still used for aircraft tyres and other specialty products.

Not all orchid species were transported from their native homes to Britain in Wardian cases. In fact most orchids had to endure being sealed in wooden cases for the journey. Cases with glass tops and/or sides were fragile, and especially likely to be damaged during transport from the orchids' native habitat to the nearest seaport or navigable river. And then, for maximum benefit, the Wardian cases had to be stored on board ship where they were exposed to diffuse but not direct sunlight, not in a pitch-black hold. However, those plants deemed to be most valuable were usually carried in Wardian cases. John Gibson used Wardian cases to transport orchids and other exotic plants that he collected in India for his employer, the sixth Duke of Devonshire, in 1837. The added expense of using Wardian cases was of no consequence to the Duke, who probably spent more money on his orchids than any one before or since!

The development of the commercial airliner spelled the end of the Wardian case for transporting plants internationally. However, it is still used by amateurs for growing orchids and other exotic plants in city apartments, especially in countries with cold climates. Advertisements for Wardian cases with temperature, humidity and light controls still appear in overseas orchid journals. And it all began with a chrysalis and a fern spore in a bottle.



Orchid Culture Notes for September

Spring at last! This Winter gone was a cold one. It was great for the fruit trees but not that flash for humans and orchids alike. The extra warmth in the sun and the ever increasing fine days remind us that the busiest time of the year is now upon us. We have the Spring shows, we have lots of flowers and of course it will soon be time for the important maintenance of our collection. Question, where to start! Whilst it is nice to view the Spring flush it is also the time of year that we need to plan for the year ahead. What plants will we cull, pot on or divide? Pest problems also build up as do fungal problems. I still sit back and wonder why subject myself to all of this. When I sit down in the shade house after a hard week of work surrounded by a heap of flowers and all the wonderful fragrances it is not a hard question to answer.

September weather is quite changeable, and this gets worse over the next two months as the seasons change. It can range from freezing cold to stinking hot in a short space of time, even this early in the season.

There will be many plants that did not flower so questions must be asked. Where did I go wrong? What made this plant flower well yet the other one did not. Was it the season? Here I was early in the year suggesting that this year would be a great one for the natives, how wrong I was, but good to know I was not alone. I suppose the relentless heatwaves of Summer past had something to do with it.

September will see more and more plants emerge out of dormancy. There will be new growth starting to show and new green tips emerging from white roots that sealed off some time ago. Don't be in a big rush to hit them with gallons of water and fertiliser. Changes of seasons happen gradually and not overnight. This is so easy to do when you hit that first warm day. Gradually increase the water and feeding as they grow and the seasons change. Try and water late morning or early afternoon at the warmest part of the day so plants are dry by nightfall. Tap water is still very cold and you can still get frosts for at least another month yet.

Damping off new growths is common this time of year and water is usually the culprit. If you can, try and water the pot not the plant. This is easy with a small collection and very hard with a large collection. If you do get water into a new growth, try to dry it. Blowing through a straw or using tissue paper whilst fiddly, may save a growth. By month's end the sun will be on the south side of the equator and with the closeness comes the intensity of heat. Plants in full sunlight over Winter will be moved under 50% shade, those hung high in the shade house are lowered and those that prefer shade are moved accordingly. The sun will rise in a more easterly aspect and set in the west and soon rise in the SE and set in the SW. The change in aspect will also mean plants in Winter shade can be exposed to Spring and Summer sun and this will burn them.

Pests will abound overnight. New crops of caterpillars and aphids are lining up for the new seasons growth. Slugs and snails continue to feast so they can fatten up before Summer dormancy. This year botrytis has been bad, a week of cloud and drizzle in July setting up a bad infestation. Soon rust will be on the increase, whilst not a huge problem with orchids, it can cause problems. Scale will start their breeding season. The juvenile nymphs are quite mobile and are looking for new growths. They suck out the goodness from the plants leaves and leave marks. Any marks on the new growths will be exaggerated as they grow larger.



Orchid Culture Notes for September cont..

Summer weeds will soon increase, its oxalis time! Pull these out when small and when repotting or dividing make sure all weeds are removed.

Start dividing your plants soon after flowering. I would wait until later in the month when the warmer weather has arrived, but if potting on, you can do this anytime as the plants root system suffers little from the disturbance. Remove flower spikes from weak plants or those you intend to bust up. Weak plants need all the help they can get and maintaining a flower produced in a stress related situation will not help them recover. With plants you will divide, I work on the theory of the longer growing season they have the better they will be, so why leave a spike on for ages when that extra time may give them a good chance to establish to flowering size next year.

Native Epiphytes have had another strange year with many plants in active growth all year. They are now in flowering mode and those of you who grow *Sarcochilus* should have spikes lengthening. At the same time I have single growth plants that have lost the main growth throwing out numerous side shoots. Some of these plants can be quite shy at doing this and removing a primary growing tip is a practice recommended for the experienced or the brave but when nature dishes this treatment out you take your chances. I'll get a few specimens out of this! Watering is when they need it and generally subject to the weather for plants in the open and those under cover are watered and fed weekly. If it remains dry then give them a drink, but if the weather remains wet, then they won't need any additional water.

Natives respond well to a drink of limewater this month at the rate of 1 gram per litre for those grown in bark. Fungicides sprayed on the new growths help stop spotting and damping off due to botrytis. Watering for plants that were dormant should be gradual over this month. Look for signs of movement such as new growths and roots. A few pellets of rapid raiser or blood and bone on the surface of the natives works well. Don't overdo as they will break down and form sludge in the mix that accelerates breakdown.

Keep feeding Zygopetalums with high nitrogen feed until the new growths bulb up and observe for any papery marks on the leaves that will have a looper caterpillar chewing away happily underneath! Cut off old flower spikes and try and finish any division this month. Oncidiiums and Cattleyas will show new root growth and growth nodes. Gradually increase watering and start feeding when the roots show growth tips. At the moment I am just misting the roots. These two species will sprout roots from the tips of the old roots, the sides of the old roots as well as the old and new growths. Try and hang all Oncidiiums above the Cymbidiiums as they love stronger light and air movement. It is still a bit early to attempt any division of these two genera.

For those who grow terrestrials September and October are peak months. Keep moist and give them a weak feed with an organic feed. Two spotted mites have been bad this year so if your flowers are slightly distorted or the leaves looking a bit brown on the edges, there is a good chance that the mites have found them. Once they have finished flowering you can slowly dry off the plants. Keep an eye out for rot in the leaves caused by being too wet. Remove them and spray with a fungicide. If the rot gets into the tubers it usually spells the end of that plant.

Next month is October and is a very busy month as we strive to finish repotting and division so as to give our plants time to settle down before the heat of Summer. We will spend some time next month with some useful tips on how to repot, divide and how to look after them.

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 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.

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ORCHIDACEOUS SOCIETY: Meets at the Plympton Community Centre, 34 Long Street, Plympton 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.

THE GAWLER DISTRICTS ORCHID CLUB: meets at the Elderly Centre 37 Fourteenth Street, Gawler at 8 pm on the 2nd Thursday 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.



**If unclaimed please return to
P.O. Box 1060 Flagstaff Hill S.A. 5159**



**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.**