



THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SA INC.

Gazette

February 2020

Patron: Coralie Hills FAOC
President: Michael Willoughby

AT A GLANCE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the South Coast Orchid Club of South Australia will be held on Wednesday 5th February 2020 at 8.00 pm. at St Bernadette's Church Hall, corner of Walsh Avenue and South Road, St. Marys. Business will include Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members for 2020, the Popular Vote for the Winning Orchid for 2019, and the presentation of Trophies for the winning Orchid Growers in 2019.

The February General Meeting of the Club will follow the Annual General Meeting. Our Guest Speaker will be Kyle Howard who will talk about Terrestrial Orchids. Please don't miss this great presentation. The meeting will finish a little later than usual at 10.00pm. **PLEASE BRING A PLATE** for Supper.

BEGINNERS' GROUP: There will be no class in February. The next meeting will be in March.

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

DAYTIME CHAPTER: The next meeting will be held at Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton on Thursday 13th February 2020 at 2.00 pm. Our Guest Speaker will be Malcolm Mangelsdorf speaking on Roses.

SOUTHERN REGION: The next meeting will be held at 2.00 pm on Sunday 16th February 2020 in Carrickalinga House, 17-19 Torrens Street, Victor Harbor. Our Guest Speaker will be June Taylor speaking on "Herbs for Health and The Environment". Learners Group will be taken by John Gay.

NEW MEMBERS: We welcome Anne Bourne and John and Violet Dunning as new members. May your stay with us be long and may you enjoy the orchids 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 on an Attendance Sheet.

DEADLINES FOR NEXT GAZETTES
23 February and 22 March



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YOUR COMMITTEE FOR 2019

PRESIDENT:	Michael Willoughby	0479 162 527
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT:	Malcolm Manglesdorf	
VICE PRESIDENT:	Kevin Western	
SECRETARY:	Lucy Spear	0409 642 352
TREASURER:	Anne Steer	
COMMITTEE:	Donna Meeuwsen, Oui Ju, Jim Fogarasi, Christine Robertson, Craig Humfrey, Geoffrey Spear, Craig Dicker	

NON COMMITTEE POSITIONS:

Registrar	Phil Steer
Editor	Christine Robertson
Web Master	Michael Willoughby
Librarians	Raelene Gardner (Main Meeting) Diane Cawley (Southern Region)
Photographer	Neil Cooper
Convenor S. R. Group	Geoff Spear
Convenors Daytime Chapter	Barbara Almond, Patty Abell
Convenor Main Beginners Gr.	Craig Humfrey



LIFE MEMBERS

* denotes Member who has passed away.

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

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Subscriptions for 2020 are soon to be due. There will be no increase in subscriptions for 2020. We do value your membership and seeing you at meetings each month.

RATES – One membership covers all groups

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

Rural and Interstate Membership

Family Membership	\$34.00
Single Membership	\$28.00

HELP WANTED FOR WORKSHOPS IN 2020

We are seeking members with a shed or covered outdoor area to hold workshops for the months of April, June, August, October and December. It is anticipated that workshops would be of two and a half hour duration.

- The first half hour would be for socialising with a cuppa and biscuits.
- The second half hour would be for showing your collection.
- The last hour and a half will be discussing growing orchids, questions and answers and any orchid information.

President's Annual Report



2019 saw a change in our judging of three shows for the main group. That is after many years of staging at the Gymnasium of the Hamilton School the staging is now at St Bernadette's Hall and judged at table top level which has the Judges approval. Another change that was made was for our Southern Region Group's annual show; it was held at the Victor Central Shopping Centre and it was a great success.

2019 saw the club host two interstate speakers who managed to have us thinking about our collections and how to manage them and diversify the collection to suit our environment. (With the four days of extreme weather experienced in December these topics are very pertinent).

There were three plant house visits throughout the year and a Mystery Bus tour which took members to three different locations in the North of Adelaide. All four days were very successful and enjoyed by the members. More are planned for the coming year.

The four shows held annually by The South Coast Orchid Club of South Australia were successful; a tribute to the organisation that goes into managing the shows as well as your wonderful plants that the public adore.

Our thoughts are with those members that we lost during the year and their families, they will be missed terribly and our members who are unwell and recovering from illnesses.

Many thanks to Barb Almond, Lucy Spear, Patty Abell for their support of the Daytime Chapter. There are always interesting plants that have been benched for us all to enjoy. Thank you to our convenors for all your hard work as some of the older members would never miss this meeting.

The Southern Region Group continues to grow in numbers and the quality of plants that are bought in each month; you are certainly growing them very well. More than 40 members look forward each month to their meeting.

A very big thank you to all the judges, committee, and all members for supporting the club throughout the year. Phil Steer as Registrar is continuing to do great work for the club, Christine Robertson our editor, the effort you put into the Gazette is there for all to see, our Treasurer Anne Steer for all the continuing efforts throughout the year, Geoff Spear for his untiring help at all times and our Secretary Lucy Spear, thank you for all your work and great organization in 2019. Finally, I would like to thank Vera Bastian for all that you have done in the Kitchen preparing the supper that the members enjoy after the meetings. My sincere thanks on behalf of the membership.

Thank you to all who gave up their precious time to assist with Shows and meetings. Finally, I wish you all a wonderful 2020. May your hobby give you the pleasure that it does me.

Successful growing and showing

Michael Willoughby



ORCHID CALENDAR 2020

MAIN MEETING

Wednesday 5th February 2020 Annual General Meeting

Guest Speaker Kyle Howard on Terrestrials

DAYTIME CHAPTER

Thursday 13th February 2020 Guest Speaker
Malcolm Mangelsdorf on Roses

SOUTHERN REGION GROUP

Sunday 16th February 2020 S Guest Speaker June Taylor
"Herbs for Health and The Environment"

AUTUMN SHOW

Saturday 2nd May to Saturday 9th May 2020
Hallett Cove Shopping Centre

WINTER SHOW

Saturday 25th July to Saturday 1st August 2020
Colonnades Shopping Centre

SOUTHERN REGION SHOW

Wednesday 19th August to Sunday 23rd August 2020

SPRING SHOW

Saturday 12th September to Saturday 19th September 2020
Seaford Rise Shopping Centre



Happy Birthday

**LUCY SPEAR, KEVIN WESTERN,
ROWAN CROWHURST, BEV GAY, JANE HIGGS,
SUSAN CARTER, SUE RUXTON, WARREN YELLAND,
GEORGE ABELL (90), BERYL WILSON,
BETH STRONACH, SHIRLEY GREIG,
REGINA LINGEN, BILL TREVASKIS**



Is your name in the Birthday Book ??

EDITORS NOTE

Quite a considerable numbers of our members receive this Gazette in black and white by mail. Others have elected to have the Gazette directly emailed to them. They receive the Gazette in full colour and have the benefit of beautiful photographs of very colourful orchids. They also receive the Gazette up to a week before the mail can deliver it to you others.

If you would like to have the colourful version emailed to you send me an email so that I receive your correct email address.

Please don't forget that this is your

Gazette. If there is anything you would like to see covered or anything you would like to see changed, please let me know. I especially like photographs to include and details of your successes with your orchids.

You can contact me,

Christine Robertson, by:

Email: kloval@westnet.com.au

Phone: (08) 8536 3948

Mobile: 0438 363 940

Mail: PO Box 454, Strathalbyn SA 5255

CHRISTMAS DINNER



A lovely Christmas dinner provided by Texas Bull Machine was enjoyed by members on 4th December 2019. Father Christmas paid us a visit, bringing bubbles, and singing of 'Jingle Bells'. Our Patron, Coralie Hills enjoyed the evening.



December Results List

Ref. No.



Points Awarded

Open Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Species

2447	Cym. canaliculatum 'Jessica'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Australian Native Terrestrial - Hybrid

2448	Cym. Kuranda 'Arthur Dawson'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
2449	Sarco. Stella 'Eye Catcher'	Kevin Western (155)	2
2450	Sarco. Joy 'Eye Catcher'	Kevin Western (155)	1

Laeliinae - Non Standard

2451	C. Unknown	Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

2455	Phrag. Grande 'No.1'	Jane & Don Higgs (1302)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species

2459	Ctsm. tenebrosus	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Orchid Seedling - any Genera

2460	Paph. Shifty Eyes	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Paphiopedilum - Non Standard

2452	Paph. Shifty Eyes	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
2453	Paph. Pinocchio 'Seaview'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
2454	Paph. [Curio x (Hsinying Rubyweb x Awasubihs	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	1

Paphiopedilum - Species

2456	Paph. hirsutissimum 'Khasia Hills'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
2457	Paph. wenshanense 'Mouliache'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
2458	Paph. delenatii 'Vincent Vista'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	1

Specimen Species or Hybrid

2461	Cym. Kuranda 'Arthur Dawson'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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First Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Species

2445	Sarco. hartmannii	Phil and Anne Steer (514)	3
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Laeliinae - Cluster

2446	Ctt. Chit Chat 'Tangerine'	Phil and Anne Steer (514)	3
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Second Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

2462	Sarco. Heidi	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	3
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Cymbidium 60 - 90mm Red Pink Brown

2464	Cym. Kiwi Devonport 'Flying High'	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	3
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Laeliinae - Cluster

2463	Ctt. Adelaide Ablaze 'Beverly'	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	3
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Oncidiinae - Hybrid > 60mm

2465	Mps. Breathless 'Brilliant'	Beth Stronach (836)	3
2466	Onc. Shelley 'Mt. Beenak'	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	2

Oncidiinae - Species

2467	Onc. sphacelatum	Beth Stronach (836)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

2473	Phal. Unknown	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	3
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VALE - BILL CLARKE

Bill and his wife Ruth joined the Club many years ago. They both got a lot of enjoyment out of growing and showing their orchids. Christmas time Bill would put tinsel on his show plants and tell the judges they had tinselitis.

As time passed on they became active members in the Daytime Chapter. When Ruth passed away Bill went to Sydney to live with his daughter. Bill passed away last August.

RIP Bill you will be sadly missed

PLANT COMMENTARY FOR DECEMBER

A total of 24 orchids were benched at this meeting. There were 17 orchids in Open Division. Fewer plants were benched in both of the other Divisions. Members were encouraged to bring orchids in the future. Thank you to the growers who brought their plants to the meeting.

Orchid of the Night and Orchid of Open Division

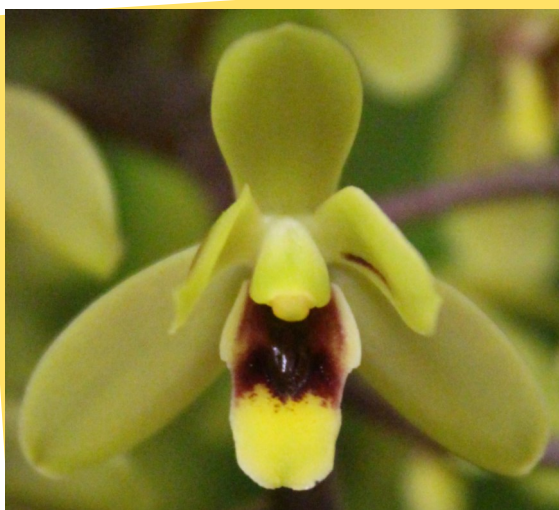
John Gay gave the commentary for the Orchid of Open Division, *Cymbidium* Kuranda 'Arthur Dawson'. This orchid was also judged Orchid of the Night. It was grown by Michael Willoughby and Oui Ju.

The plant was very large and covered with masses of long spikes. Each spike was filled evenly along the whole length with small, shapely flowers. The number of inflorescences were too many to count. It made a beautiful display on the show bench. The plant was also awarded a specimen certificate because of the huge number of flowers. It was a well-presented plant with clean, healthy leaves.

The species in the breeding of this orchid are *Cymbidium madidum* and *Cymbidium suave*. Both of these species are native to Australia. They grow in trees from New South Wales through Queensland. This orchid was judged as an Australian Native Epiphyte Hybrid. *Cymbidium* Kuranda 'Arthur Dawson' was bred by Greenoaks, and was first registered by Greenoaks in 1972.

The plant was grown in a shade house. It was originally hung up above the other plants. It was watered a couple of times a week and more often in the hotter weather. It was fertilized in a similar fashion to the rest of the orchids in the collection.

Congratulations to Michael Willoughby and Oui Ju on a very successful night.



Orchid of the Night
Orchid of Open Division
Cym. Kuranda 'Arthur Dawson'
 Grown by Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju
 Photos Neil Cooper



PLANT COMMENTARY FOR DECEMBER Cont...

Orchid of First Division

Don Higgs gave the commentary for the Plant of First Division which was Cattlianthe Chit Chat 'Tangerine' grown by Phil and Anne Steer.

The main species in the breeding of this orchid are *Guarianthe aurantiaca*, *Cattleya cinnabarina* and *Cattleya harpophylla*. The colour of each of these species is orange. This orange colouring has been passed on to the hybrid. Hence the flowers of Cattlianthe Chit Chat 'Tangerine' were a vivid, bold tangerine colour. The flowers were shiny and bright. There were 2 clusters of flowers one with 8 flowers and the other with 7 flowers.

Well done to Phil and Anne Steer.



Orchid of First Division
Ctt. Chit Chat 'Tangerine'
Grown by Phil & Anne Steer
Photos Neil Cooper

Orchid of Second Division

Don Higgs gave the commentary for the Plant of Second Division which was Cattlianthe Adelaide Ablaze 'Beverley' grown by Laurie and Sue Carter

This was a lovely big plant with several clusters of good-sized flowers. The flower colours were various shades of orange and they had a shiny texture. The crossing was made by Adelaide Orchids in 1992.

The main species in the hybrid is *Cattleya Intermediette* which has been crossed with *Cattlianthe Trick or Treat*. This was a well grown plant. Congratulations to Laurie and Sue Carter.

Orchid of Second Division
Ctt. Adelaide Ablaze 'Beverley'
Grown by Laurie & Sue Carter
Photos Neil Cooper



Thank you to everyone on the Judging team including pencillers, those entering data on the computer and the photographer. Phil Steer will be back on board at the next meeting. Merry Christmas to members and a very happy and healthy New Year in 2020.

Vicky Cooper
Acting Registrar



DAYTIME CHAPTER Thursday 12th December 2019



Hi Everybody

The Daytime meeting was a fun afternoon with lots of laugh and chatter. Members had fun trying to make a couple of jigsaws and it was great watching everyone working together to see which jigsaw was finished first. There was much laughter with people trying to keep their Kris Kringle presents from being swapped. The afternoon finished with a magnificent afternoon tea.

We would like to thank our fantastic members for all the help, raffle donations and assistance that was cheerfully given to us during the year and we hope to see you in 2020.



Barb & Patty

Message from Coral and Trevor

Hello and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to our Friends and Relatives. Hope that good health is your companion for the years to come.

RAIN,RAIN,GLORIOUS RAIN so they say. ENGLAND. We are at Surrey, near Gatwick, South of London. Back Roads and connecting roads under water. Paddocks (meadows) are waterlogged with excess water sitting on top. The M23 on the North track at a standstill when we crossed above it yesterday kilometres from where it was flooded. River nearby burst it's banks causing havoc in the township concerned. BIT OF A CONTRAST TO SOUTH AUSSIE

Spent a couple of days in Toledo, Spain. What an eye opener. Stayed in digs within the old fortified walled city. The talent of the Artisans practising the old traditions spaces you out. Toledo Steel knives and swords also famous.

Christmas and Boxing Day at James and Caroline's with James family. New Years Eve: in restaurant, overlooking the Thames, watching the fireworks not outside being "snap frozen". Very thankful to have Caroline as our Mentor and Guide otherwise things wouldn't have happened. Even with this weather, now lifting, we have had a good time.

Back on the 7th Jan. Love to all.



SOUTHERN REGION MEETING

Sunday 15th December 2019

Convenor, Geoff Spear, opened the meeting welcoming members and guests present wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Great 2020. He said how much he enjoyed the Christmas Dinner and hoped everyone else who attended did also. He thanked Bev and John Gay, Marg Yelland, Sue and Graham Zerbe and all members who helped at the Shows., setting up the halls and a special thank you to Shirley and Don Greig.

Geoff then read from *Orchids Australia* magazine where Phil Steer had written a report on the Southern Region Winter Show. He apologised to Meaghan Clayton, as it was her plant that had won not the one that was listed.

New Member Anne Bourne was welcomed to the Club and received her Orchid plant. Apologies were too many to list (14).

Guest Speaker: Our guest speaker for the day was Graham Zerbe who was very upset as he left his computer at home and his Cattleya talk. Being the professional he is he had a very interesting talk on *Zygopetalum* that I am sure we all enjoyed. The Cattleya talk will be held on the 19th April 2020. Thank You Graham for your interesting talk.

Judging: Not a lot of plants for judging but what there was was absolutely beautiful. Judging was carried out by John Gay and Associate Judge, Christine Robertson, with Margaret Yelland, Lyn Heysen, Bev Gay and Sue Zerbe undertaking the data entry and printing of certificates.

- **Plant of the Day, Plant of First Division:**
Ons. Catatante 'Pumpkin Patch' Grown by Chris & Lyn Heysen
- **Plant of Second Division :**
Phal. Unknown 'Katrina' Grown by Genny & Dudley Huxtable
- **Popular Vote:**
Ons. Wildcat 'White Lips' Grown By Eileen Pinnock

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year and a good Orchid Growing Season 2020.

Next Meeting:

Sunday 16th February 2020 at 2.00 pm. Learners' Group 1.15 pm with John Gay. Our Guest Speaker will be June Taylor Speaking on "Herbs for Health and the Environment"



Orchid of First Division, Plant of the Day
Ons. Catatante 'Pumpkin Patch'
 Grown By Chris & Lyn Heysen
 Photos Christine Robertson



Orchid of Second Division
Phal. Unknown 'Katrina'
 Grown By Genny & Dudley Huxtable
 Photos Christine Robertson



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Southern Region December Results List

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

First Division

Cymbidium under 60- any other colour

1844	Cym. Cricket 'Rosetta'	Eileen Pinnock (519)	3
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Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm

1843	C. x Dolosa 'Gorgeous'	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
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Oncidiinae - Hybrid < 60mm

1846	Ons. Catatante 'Pumpkin Patch'	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
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Oncidiinae - Hybrid > 60mm

1845	Ons. Wildcat 'White Lips'	Eileen Pinnock (519)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

1847	Papilionanda [Pda.] Usha	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
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1848	Masd. Cha Cha Cha	Eileen Pinnock (519)	2
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species

1849	Bif. tyrianthina	Ruth Tugwell (613)	3
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Second Division

Laeliinae - Non Standard

1839	Pvc. Golden Peacock	Bob Clayton (143)	3
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1840	Ctt. Chit Chat 'Tangerine'	Bob Clayton (143)	2
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Oncidiinae - Hybrid > 60mm

1841	Mps. Butfield	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

1842	Phal. Unknown 'Katrina'	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	3
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Popular Vote

Ons. Wildcat 'White Lips'
Grown By Eileen Pinnock
Photo Christine Robertson

VALE BRUCE JOHN KIRK

19/7/1926 to 14/12/2019 Aged 93

Bruce was born at Riverton. He attended Rhynie School. When Bruce married Roma he bought a property at Back Valley. The house is still there today. Bruce had 3 children, 10 Grand children & 22 Great Grand children He was known to them as G.G.

His hobbies were cricket, football (He coached the Encounter Foot ball Team), fishing, gardening Orchid growing and exhibitor. Bruce and Roma joined the South Coast Orchid Club Southern Regional Group back in th very early days and were very happy ro see how the club grew. Bruce loved his Cymbidiums and won many certificates. When Bruce retired they toured Australia.

RIP Bruce you will be sadly missed.

JANUARY LUNCHEON

On Sunday 19th January. Southern Region Group had their first Social Meeting, to start the year. Judges were on holidays so members brought along their Orchid plants, 50c entry fee. Members were the judges and the winner took the proceeds from the entry fee.

Congratulations to the winner Lyn Heysen with her Cattleya,
Rth. Love Sound 'Dorashine' x C. Snow Blind 'Pink Tips'

Geoff Spear spoke about plants that members had brought in that were in need of T.L.C. and he explained how to treat plants to bring them up to full potential.

Graham Zerbe had made a video program of Southern Region being reformed at Victor Harbor and the happy times we have had over the years: Eileen Pinnock winner of the first Grand Champion, Noel Oliver presenting trophies to members, Our Doorman Keith Sutton, our first Associate Judge Colin Campbell. What great times we have had.

Lunch time and I have never seen so many delicious meat platters, salads and deserts just perfect. I am sure everyone went home thinking lets get started on this great year we have ahead. Thank you to all concerned who made this a wonderful day.



Popular Vote Orchid
Rth. Love Sound 'Dorashine'
X C. Snow Blind 'Pink Tips'
Grown by Lyn Heysen
Photo Christine Robertson

ADVERTISEMENTS

ORCHIATA BARK AVAILABLE

Plant Starter \$12.95
Orchiata Bark \$29.00 per 40 litre Bag

Pimpala Landscape Supplies. 150 Pimpala Road. Morphett Vale.
Phone: 08 8322 4466.



Orchid Culture Notes for February

It's the start of another year in the orchid house. This year we have been dealt very varied weather ranging from baking and orchid killing 40°C plus heat to high humidity and high winds and then cooler days but scant rain. A normal cycle should start soon ?? and as the saying goes, it will get hot when the kids go back to school. Note that any heat damage will come out over the next few weeks with leaf marks becoming more evident and leaf drop occurring. The recent humidity will create some fungal issues in the shade house as well, so keep an eye out for any outbreaks and have some fungicide ready in case. Heat damaged plants with damaged leaves and stress are prime targets for pest and disease attack. The physical side of heat damage is easy to spot but remember that heat also damages the plants roots as well. Black pots exposed to the sun overheat and cook the roots. Whilst the top of the plant may come through ok, underneath things are not so good. Then sometime later the plants start to shrivel as they do no longer have a functioning root system. Most of us will put down root loss to poor culture such as over watering or a broken down mix. Just remember, heat can be added to this. Even slugs and snails will be in good numbers awakened by the sudden change in weather.

February is usually the hottest month and with it often comes an increase in the intensity of the north winds, so there is much heat left for us yet. In fact you can still have temperatures nudging the old 100 degree mark as late as the equinox. That's March 21 and the long range forecasts are pointing towards an Indian summer.

I said earlier on that prevention is a key if we are to avoid damage to our plants. It's no use after the event. I have learnt from previous heat events those plants that struggle, and I have provided them with the additional support they needed this time round. The result was only a very small number of plants suffered any damage and there were no losses. Same rules apply to pests. Spray when the moths are active for caterpillars for example. By the time their crop of loopers has started chomping on your orchids half the damage has been done. Get them as they hatch. When the rain stops inspect the orchid house and surrounds for slugs and snails. Be prepared for the next heat event. For some of us, be it age, disability, size of orchid house, whatever, we cannot go to extraordinary lengths to save our plants from the heat but there are some ideas that may lessen the damage. Humidity is your ally and keeping it up high will help. Wet the floors as often as you need to on extreme days. We have two large rubbish bins full of grey water for this purpose. Just don't water the orchids with it but using it for splashing on the shade house sides and floor is a better option than tipping it down the drain. Extra shade will help reduce burning caused by intense light. It will not reduce the damage caused by heat. A wet floor or sides of the shade house will evaporate water. With evaporation there is a release of latent heat. The air cools. Wet your hand and blow on it....it feels cool!

Basically, shade reduces damage by light and the humidity reduces damage by heat. For those with 50% shade cloth, especially the white one the damage this year would have been severe. It's looking like the extreme heat we have experienced the past couple of years may be with us for good each summer. A secondary layer of shade we can roll out over the base layer for a few days whilst the heat is at its worst may become a required item. Otherwise we may have to rethink colours. Of course aspect and location will also have a bearing. My area is very open, no trees or neighbours to shade my yard, so I have to make allowances for that.

Another thing is that we may be forced to stop growing genera that can't handle the heat and concentrate on those that are heat tolerant. My hot house for example apart from foggies has nothing to control the temperature so now only the hard cane Dendrobiums, Cattleyas and a few of the more tolerant Oncidiums spend summer in there, for everything else it is too hot. I have lost some of the real cool growing stuff that I won't replace until I can provide the artificial conditions to keep the temps below 30 all year round.



Orchid Culture Notes for February cont..

Enough of the doom and gloom. Autumn is coming! But it is not here yet. The obvious task is to keep plants moist and ensure all pots are checked regularly to make sure all plants are getting enough water. I lift and feel my pots occasionally. With practice you can tell by the weight of the pot whether or not it is dry. The old finger in the mix test works to test for moisture and of course we can buy moisture meters. By now many genera are completing their growth stage and will be in the process of maturing their growths. Some in readiness for immediate flowering over the autumn and others for winter and spring. These maturing plants should have their diet changed to one with a higher potassium content to help mature the plant as well as strengthen the raceme and improve the colours.

Might be a good idea to look at the presentation of these plants and start working on them now. For example I have a nice *C. Hawaiian Wedding Song* with several new growths all over the place in the pot. They are in sheath but not yet filling out with buds. If I leave it too long the presentation will be like a dog's breakfast and if I try and fix it too late then there is risk to the blooms so I work on it now to straighten the growths up and get them spaced correctly around the pot.

Spraying with a stress guard type preparation is also beneficial as these products reduce the amount of evaporation through transpiration. You will not stop the damage completely but a bit of forethought and action will lessen the damage.

Lets have a look around and see what's on in the shade house this month. By now our autumn flowering *Laeliniiae* complex (*Cattleyas* and *Laelia's*) will have rapidly maturing growths and some already showing emerging spikes. Make sure these spikes and growths are well supported with a stake. Keep water out of the sheaths to avoid fungal rots and spots and make sure the snail baits are on the pot. It often rains this month and it will wake up those slimey fellows. Keep well watered so the spikes remain plump. As some of these developing spikes will excrete a sugary substance you will find ants will be attracted to the spike. They can do a lot of damage as they will eat into the developing spike and they usually bring in a few soft scales as well. Extreme weather can cause buds to abort so bring them inside if it gets real hot (or unseasonably cold) at this stage of initiation.

Oncidiums as a rule will be filling out their pseudobulbs and the odd spike or two will be starting to show. Similar culture to the *Laeliniiae* complex should apply. For those with terrestrials this is the last month for re potting. Still aim to keep them on the dry side after re potting as the disturbance of re potting plus being too eager with hose will have them out too early. Wait till the cooler weather in April for this although there will be early varieties flowering in March. Like any orchid, a knowledge of the species itself or that in the hybrid is important when determining what needs to be done and when.

Native epiphyte growths as usual are all over the place. I even had 2 *Den. speciosum* flower in January. (note *Den. speciosum* var. *capricornicum* can flower very early in the year but these are not that variety) Some are maturing yet others are only buds. As a rule keep the water and feeding up. Watch out for caterpillars as they love new soft growths. Many will have a burnt leaf tip or spot. Leave them until the leaf matures before trimming them. Inspect the new growths and if they are floppy then some part of your culture is not quite right. Too much shade and high nitrogen in the feed are the two main culprits. Don't move them yet to a brighter place as they will burn. Leave that to April. They still may flower in spring.

Zygopetalums will have new growths maturing and evidence of new growths will be evident from the base of these maturing ones signal the start of a new flowering season. Keep moist, feed with a balanced to high potassium based feed and watch out for loopers, especially on the undersides of the leaves. They don't eat through, rather they skeletonise the leaf and when that dries looks rather unsightly. A spotted, half eaten Zygo on the show bench doesn't have that appeal. Again place a few snail pellets on the surface of the pot.



Orchid Culture Notes for February cont..

Keep Paphiopedilums moist and keep an eye out for mealy bugs. High humidity and fresh air movement is important this time of year. Keep light levels fairly low. As a rule hold your hand about 12 inches above the plant and you should only just see a slight shadow. Full shadow too much light, no shadow a bit dark. This is only a rule of thumb for newer growers of this genus. Feeding is usually a balanced feed at half or less of the manufacturer's recommendations. If you can, try and flush your Paphs out occasionally with rainwater to remove salt build up from tap water and fertiliser. Adelaide water is loaded with extra salt over the summer. They will love you for it. A flush is usually two or three waters say an hour apart. The first softens and dissolves some of the salts, the second and third gets the rest. Collect the waste water and use that to wet your floors later when it's hot.

For other genera it's a matter of treating them in accordance with their growth habits although in most cases they will be in a growth mode.

February is a dry month on the show bench and apart from a few plants there won't be much else out. Even with my collection, finding enough to show will be difficult, even more with many that have flowered showing the affects of the heat. Bring in what you can. If it has a burn or a spot I am sure your plant won't be alone.

February will end and the extreme heat of summer maybe a couple of weeks later. March will be upon us and with it those cooler nights. Most of our plants will survive this summer and we need to be a little more caring to see them through it and help in the recovery stakes.

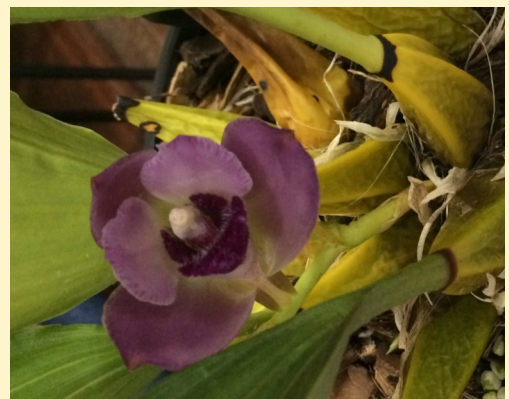
Steve Howard

UNUSUAL PLANT OF MONTH - *Bifrenaria tyrianthina*

A specimen of *Bifrenaria tyrianthina* was presented by Ruth Tugwell at the Southern Region Meeting recently. This species grows in Brazil on rocks at elevations of 1000-2000m

Growths are spaced on a very short rhizome and smooth white roots produced at the base of the growth. The leaves 15-25cm long, leathery, elliptical-elongate with fan like folds and sharply pointed tip are carried at the apex of the pseudobulb. Inflorescence is 8cm long: erect peduncles emerge from base of most recently matured pseudobulb. 3 inflorescences often produced by each flowering growth. 1-4 flowers per inflorescence. Large showy long lasting flowers have widely spaced sepals and petals that are coloured rose to purple violet, and more strongly coloured in outer portions.

Bifrenaria tyrianthina has been used in breeding in only a limited way with four offspring recorded. It has been awarded in America having five awards recorded. There have been no awards in Australia.



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

THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Meets on the first Wednesday of the month at St. Bernadette's Church Hall corner of Walsh Avenue and South Road, St. Mary's. Beginners Class starts at 7.15p.m., meeting at 8.00p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Our Affiliated Clubs:

The Murray Bridge and Districts Orchid Club.

The Orchid Club of S.A. Inc.



AFFILIATED CLUBS

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

If unclaimed please return to
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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.
E. & O. E.**