

The South Coast Orchid Club of SA Inc.

Gazette

**October
2014**



PRESIDENT: Geoff Spear

PATRON: Sydney Monkhouse

AT A GLANCE

The next meeting of the South Coast Orchid Club will be held at 8 pm on Wednesday 1st October 2014 at St. Bernadette's Church Hall corner of Walsh Avenue and South Road, St. Marys. Our guest speaker will be Chris Heysen telling us about his 'Life's Journey With Orchids'.

BEGINNERS' GROUP Before main meeting 7.30 pm and hosted by Daniel Lutz. We need more members to show their wonderful plants. Please come along to the Beginners' Group where Geoff Spear and Daniel Lutz will show you how easy it is to prepare your plants to show.

DAYTIME CHAPTER

The next meeting will be held at Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton on Thursday 9th October 2014 at 2pm. Our guest speaker will be John Gay talking on Mixed Genera. No Beginners' Group.

SOUTHERN REGION GROUP

The next meeting will be held at 2pm on Sunday 19th October 2014 in Carrickalinga House, 17-19 Torrens Street, Victor Harbor. Our guest speaker will be Steve Howard and his subject will be Oncidiums.

DISPLAY AND TRADING TABLE – UNLEY LIBRARY, 181, UNLEY ROAD, UNLEY

Thursday 9th October 10.00 am – 8.00 pm

Friday 10th October 10.00 am – 8.00 pm

Saturday 11th October 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

Sunday 12th October 2.00 am – 5.00 pm

Sunday 12th October Geoff Spear Potting Demonstration 3.30 pm – 4.30 pm

BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS

Suzy Bratuz, Vicky Cooper, Glynn Furlong, Lee Grafton, Krysia Podgorski, Kevin Trevan, Malcom Young, Monica Sorrell, Pauline Vlachos.

BIRTHDAY DRAW

See Heather Wright to put your name in the birthday book.

LUCKY NAME BADGE

Make sure you wear your Name Badge, 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 an attendance book by name and signature.

NEW MEMBERS Chris and Lyn Heysen.

Website: <http://www.scocsa.net>

E-Mail: lucys18@bigpond.com

ABN 83 245 384 076

ORCHID CALENDAR FOR 2014

SOUTHERN GROUP WORKSHOP: FRIDAY 17th OCTOBER at Reg and Elsie Clifford's home, 46, Lamont Road, McCracken commencing at 10.00a.m. Would members please bring a salad or a cake.

BONSAI CLUB: SATURDAY 18TH OCTOBER DISPLAY AND TRADING TABLE at McLaren Vale.

COMMITTEE 2014:

PRESIDENT	Geoffrey Spear
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT	Donna Meeuwsen
VICE PRESIDENT	Paul Hayes
TREASURER	Barbara Almond
SECRETARY	Lucy Spear

Dorothy Carassai, Andrew Lutz, Michael Willoughby, Oui Ju, Heather Wright, Susanna Bratuz, Christine Robertson.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES - One membership covers all groups.

Family membership	\$33.00
Single membership	\$25.00
Junior membership	\$17.00
Rural and Interstate membership	
Family membership	\$29.00
Single membership	\$23.00

2015 COMMITTEE:

Time for all members to think about who is going to be responsible for the running of your Club in 2015.

At the close of the December meeting we need nomination forms filled in by members nominating other members for Committee positions.

Most positions to be vacated can be re-nominated.

CHRISTMAS DINNER – DECEMBER MEETING:

The main course will be catered for by **TEXAS BULL MACHINE**.

Christmas Dinner will commence at 6.30 pm sharp Wednesday 3rd December 2014 with Main Meeting at 8 pm. The Club will provide nibbles and fruit cup. You may BYO wine, spirits and beer.

Members who would like to attend should let Barbara know as soon as possible so we can organize the catering. Cost \$25.00 per head.

DELUXE SMORGASBORD MEAL

**WHOLE BAKED SNAPPER
S.A. PRAWNS
CHAMPAGNE LEG HAM
ROAST TURKEY
SALAMI, CABANA AND METTWURST
SAUCES, ROLLS AND BUTTER
DESSERT WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE CLUB**

**Disposable plates, real cutlery, Christmas serviettes
Please bring a gift, receive a gift. Something you would like to receive yourself.
Father Christmas has been invited.**

JUDGES ROSTER FOR OCTOBER MEETING:

Open Division: Noel Oliver, Trevor Stutley. **Recorder:** Peter Haltis

First Division: John Gay, Rowan Crowhurst. **Recorder:** Vicky Cooper

Second Division: Wendy Lodge, Judy Mc Redmond. **Recorder:** Graham Zerbe

Sue Zerbe

Registrar of Judges

B.B.Q. at Bunnings

The BBQ at Bunnings on Saturday 6th September was a very successful day and the money raised will be a great help in the running of our Club. Thank you to Bunnings for allowing us to use your facilities to assist in our fund raising. Bunnings should be commended for helping local organizations. Thank you to the 12 members who helped. It was a very busy day. 4 Committee members arrived at 7.45a.m. to set up. It was fun working out how to put up the marquee. At 9.00a.m. most hands were on deck for a busy day. Later a few more members came to help tidy up. Shirley and Don Greig came from the Southern Region Group. Shirley also helped Reg put out the pamphlets for S.R. Group Show.



Paul Hayes and Michael Willoughby hard at work on the BBQ.



The sales team of Lucy Spear, Oui Ju and Michael Cunningham did not have much respite.

VALE

It is with regret we wish to advise the passing of Ralph Lucas. For many years Ralph and Heather had a joint membership and attended the Daytime Chapter. Ralph, until the last few months barely missed a meeting and was loved by all members. He was a very knowledgeable man and he will be sadly missed by all. Condolences to Heather and family. Rest in peace Ralph.

Sarcochilis Appreciation Night at November Main Meeting:

Thankyou to George and Patty Abell who have donated a perpetual trophy for the best sarcochilis on the night. Please make it a great night and bring along your sarcs.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Show time is over and I must thank each and every one of you for your participation. What a great year we have had, but we always worry, just wondering what will be flowering in time.

Well the good news is for all those plants you have that are flowering out of season, there are still two great displays for you to put them in! One will be held at Unley Library with a trading table. The other display will be at McLaren Vale where we have been invited to join the Bonsai Club again this year. See pages 1 for details.

We have two wonderful speakers for the next two meetings. In October, Chris Heysen's topic is "My Life's Journey with Orchids" and in November, Jim Shaughnesy will be talking to us on Sarcs. There will be a perpetual trophy presented for the best sarcochilis benched and donated by George and Patty Abell.

The Spring Show was a great success and the new position at Colonnades was a wonderful spot for us to display our orchids. Thank you to Committee and members for all your hard work. Good growing and showing, Geoff.

DAYTIME CHAPTER

Hi Everyone,

Our guest speaker today was Mr. Brian Lyttle, who attended with his wife, Anne and gave a very informative and in depth Power Point Presentation on Phalaenopsis. He explained the growing conditions they prefer, fertilizing and the various propagating methods used. This program also showed many different shapes and colours of this very pretty orchid genera. This was very much appreciated by the members, as the more information we get the more we can hopefully adapt things to have a bit more success at growing this genera. Brian also brought along a great variety of plants to sell which we always appreciate. So thanks Brian and Anne, for doing this. It was much appreciated.

On a very sad note, our Daytime Chapter has lost one of its members. Mr. Ralph Lucas has passed away. Ralph and his wife, Heather were very regular members at all our meetings over the years. Sadly poor health curtailed these outings. Ralph was such a kind, gentle man, one we could all relate to so well. He was a great garden lover of all plants. He will be sadly and greatly missed by us all. Rest in peace Ralph. It was a real pleasure to have known you.

Apologies today from Anne Dewar, Robert Gunn and Reg Foster. Hope to see you all again soon.

Peter and Geraldine Flavel were celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary today. Congratulations to you both. Quite an achievement. Well done.

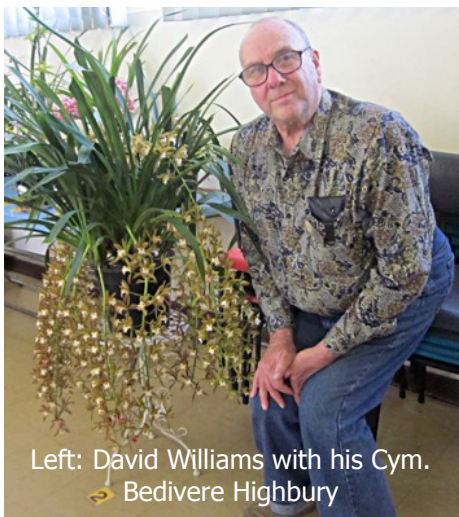
Mrs Lesley Gunn did the Plant Commentary today, doing a great job explaining and describing each plant in detail. Thank you Lesley. The display table looked fantastic. There were many plants of different genera, all very well grown and presented. Mrs Patty Abell's beautiful pink Cymbidium Warren Thomas 'Pink Panther' with three lovely tightly bunched spikes, with many flowers, was voted best on display. Well done and thanks to all those who brought in their lovely plants to share with us.

The meeting closed after another great day of sharing and caring. Thanking all in attendance.

Bye Dorothy,
8277-1793.



Right: Patty Abell receiving her prize for her Cym. Warren Thomas 'Pink Panther' which was voted best on display.



Guest Speaker Brian Lyttle receiving his gift from co-ordinator Dorothy Carassi.



SOUTHERN REGION GROUP MEETING SUNDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER

Beginners' Group: 1.30p.m. Noel Oliver

Meeting: Noel Oliver opened the meeting at 2.00 pm. and welcomed the guest speaker, Chris Heysen and visitors Michael and Bernadette Mathews from Horsham.

Lucky name-badge: Eileen Pinnock

Birthday draw: Joan McMahon

Apologies: John Gay, Geoff & Lucy Spear, Rus Sutton and Cliff Wegener.

Guest Speaker: Chris Heysen gave a very interesting presentation on 'His Life's Journey with Orchids'.

Next meeting: 19th October 2014.

Judges: Noel Oliver and Graham Zerbe

SRG August Results List

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

Second Division

Australian Native Epiphyte – species

231 Den. kingianum	Reg & Elsie Clifford	3
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Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

232 Den. Bill Dobson	Eileen Pinnock	3
233 Den. X gracillimum	Marilyn Jelfs	2
234 Den. Bardo Rose 'Alba'	Ruth Tugwell	1

Australian Native Terrestrial - Hybrid

235 Ptst. Hoodwink	Reg & Elsie Clifford	3
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Laeliinae - Cluster

236 Lc. Icarus x L. Gold Star x Lc. Trick oe Treat	Ruth Tugwell	3
237 Ctt. Happy Valley	Keith & Russ Sutton	2
238 Ctt. Adelaide Ablaze 'Zoe'	Keith & Russ Sutton	1

Laeliinae – Non Standard

239 Slc. Hsinbau Lady 'Red Beauty'	Ruth Tugwell	3
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Cymbidium 60 – 90 mm Red/Pink/Brown

240 Cym. Unknown	Ruth Tugwell	3
241 Cym. Tapestry 'Zeta'	Reg & Elsie Clifford	2
242 Cym. Kimberley Lady 'Topsy'	Reg & Elsie Clifford	1

Cymbidium Under 60 Red/Pink/Brown

243 Cym. Nancy Maxwell 'Shirley'	Marilyn Jelfs	3
244 Cym. Mary Green	Ruth Tugwell	2
245 Cym. (Tetsugesas x Kalang)	Marilyn Jelfs	1

Zygopetaliinae Hybrid

246 Z. (Kiwi Maize x crinitum)	Marilyn Jelfs	3
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Orchid Genera – Not listed Elsewhere – Hybrid

247 Phal. Unknown	Keith & Russ Sutton	3
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Orchid Genera – Not listed Elsewhere – species

248 Pleione formosana	Ruth Tugwell	3
249 Ansellia africana 'Hansia Craigieburn'	Ruth Tugwell	2
250 Bletilla striata	Ruth Tugwell	1

Specimen

251 Den. X gracillimum	Marilyn Jelfs	3
252 Den. kingianum	Reg & Elsie Clifford	2
253 Den. [(Susan x gracilicaule) x falcoostrum]	Reg & Elsie Clifford	1

Plant of the Day Winner: Den. Bill Dobson

Popular Vote Winner: Den. X gracillimum

Eileen Pinnock

Marilyn Jelfs



Noe Oliver presents Eileen Pinnock with her prize as Plant of the Day winner for her Den. Bill Dobson (see below).



Noel Oliver presents Marilyn Jelfs with her prize as winner of the Popular Vote for her Den. *X gracilimum* (see below).



Member Val Phillips asks Chris Heysen a question about growing "Phallies" while Michael Matthews and Lynn check directions.

September Results List

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

Open Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Species

275	Den. teretifolium	Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	3
276	Den. teretifolium	Peter & Geraldine Flavel (487)	2
277	Den. dolichophylla	Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	1

Australian Native Terrestrial - Hybrid

280	Ptst. Goblin	Robert & Lesley Gunn (424)	3
281	Ptst. Talhood	Robert & Lesley Gunn (424)	2

Australian Native Terrestrial - Species

278	Ptst. nutans	Robert & Lesley Gunn (424)	3
279	Ptst. nutans 'White'	Robert & Lesley Gunn (424)	2

Cymbidium 60 - 90mm White Cream Yellow Green

312	Cym. Magic Wall 'Lyndoch'	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	3
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Cymbidium over 90mm - any other colour

311	Cym. Valley Splash 'Awesome'	Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	3
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Cymbidium over 90mm White Cream Yellow Green

309	Cym. Magic Wall	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	3
310	Cym. Magic Wall 'Barossa'	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	2

Cymbidium under 60- any other colour

307	Cym. Spark Sprite 'Sparkey'	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	3
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Laeliinae - Standard under 100mm

282	C. Orpettii	Robert & Lesley Gunn (424)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

314	Den. Australian Ginger	Peter & Geraldine Flavel (487)	3
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Orchid Seedling - any Genera

315	Cym. Magic Wall	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	3
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Paphiopedilum - Non Standard

308	Paph. Chouvetii	Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	3
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Popular vote open

317	Den. teretifolium	Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	3
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Specimen Species or Hybrid

316	Den. teretifolium	Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	3
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Zygopetalinae - Hybrid

313	Zga. (Zest x Zest)	Robert & Lesley Gunn (424)	3
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First Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

271	Den. Victorian Splendour 'Ross Watts'	Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby (1252)	3
272	Den. Elegant Glow	Eileen Pinnock (519)	2

Australian Native Terrestrial - Species

273	Ptst. baptistii 'Gosford'	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	3
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Cymbidium 60 - 90mm Red Pink Brown

291	Cym. Carnival Queen 'Carole'	Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby (1252)	3
292	Cym. Willunga Magic 'It's Magic'	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	2
293	Cym. (Red Beauty x Valley Regent)	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	1

Cymbidium over 90mm - any other colour

289	Cym. Mem. Dean Roesler 'Kalbeeba'	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	3
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Cymbidium over 90mm - Species

290	Cym. sanderæ var. Sanderæ	Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby (1252)	3
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Cymbidium over 90mm Red Pink Brown

283	Cym. Lancashire Khan 'Debonair'	Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby (1252)	3
284	Cym. Blazing Fury 'Barcelona'	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	2
285	Cym. Regent Flame	Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby (1252)	1

Cymbidium over 90mm White Cream Yellow Green

286	Cym. Beau Guest 'Glen'	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	3
287	Cym. Julie Hawkes 'Atlantis'	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	2
288	Cym. Rembrandt 'Masterpiece'	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	1

September Results List (cont.)

Ref. No.			Points Awarded
First Division (cont.)			
Cymbidium under 60- any other colour			
296	Cym. Mary Green	John Robinson (1448)	3
297	Cym. Sarah Jean 'Shon'	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	2
Cymbidium under 60 Red Pink Brown			
294	Cym. Barossa Ruby 'Rejoice'	Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby (1252)	3
Cymbidium under 60 White Cream Yellow Green			
295	Cym. Sarah Jean 'Karen'	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	1
Laeliinae - Cluster			
274	Ctt. Adelaide Ablaze 'Fiery Gold'	Eileen Pinnock (519)	3
Oncidiinae - Species			
298	Onc. maculatum	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	3
Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid			
301	Phal. (Jean White x Vienbank)	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	3
302	Phal. Golden Mistress	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	2
Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species			
303	Max. porphyrostele	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	3
Orchid Seedling - any Genera			
304	Cym. Regent Flame	Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby (1252)	3
Paphiopedilum - Non Standard			
299	Paph. Chouvetii 'Van Dyke'	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	3
Specimen Species or Hybrid			
305	Den. Victorian Splendour 'Ross Watts'	Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby (1252)	3
Zygopetalinae - Hybrid			
300	Z. Advance Australia	Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby (1252)	3
Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid			
322	Den. (Victorian Stripe x Victorian Flare) George Misirlis (1125)		3
323	Den. [(Jombock x bigibbum) x speciosum] = Den. (Hot Pink x speciosum)	Rowan Crowhurst (763)	2
324	Den. Unknown	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	1
Australian Native Epiphyte - Species			
320	Den. speciosum	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	3
321	Den. speciosum	Louise Moulds (515)	2
Australian Native Terrestrial - Species			
325	Ptst. curta	Peter Haltis (442)	3
326	Ptst. curta	Paul & Donja Hayes (1129)	2
Cymbidium 60 - 90mm - any other colour			
340	Cym. (Regal Fire x Strath Valley)	Bill Jayne (1180)	3
Cymbidium 60 - 90mm Red Pink Brown			
337	Cym. (Winter Valley x Sleeping Sharon)	Bill Jayne (1180)	3
338	Cym. Ten Pin 'Erna'	George Misirlis (1125)	2
339	Cym. (Regal Fire x Motor Mouth)	Bill Jayne (1180)	1
Cymbidium over 90mm Red Pink Brown			
332	Cym. (Lunar Blaze x Flaming Vulcan)	Bill Jayne (1180)	3
333	Cym. Kirby Lesh 'Lonsdale'	George Misirlis (1125)	2
334	Cym. Hot Chilli 'Buttons'	Daniel & Andrew Lutz (709)	1
Cymbidium over 90mm White Cream Yellow Green			
335	Cym. Tracey Hall	George Misirlis (1125)	3
336	Cym. (Choc Valley x Cronulla)	Bill Jayne (1180)	2
Cymbidium under 60- any other colour			
343	Cym. Bedivere 'Highbury'	David Williams (1351)	3
344	Cym. (Tethy's x Sarah Jean) = Cym. mem. Athalie Elizabeth	Daniel & Andrew Lutz (709)	2
Cymbidium under 60 Red Pink Brown			
341	Cym. (Ruby Eyes x Tetsugetsues)	George Misirlis (1125)	3
342	Cym. Ruby Pendant 'Jean May'	Daniel & Andrew Lutz (709)	2

September Results List (cont.)

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

Second Division (cont.)

Laeliinae - Cluster

330	C. Gene May x Bc. Maikai	Paul & Donja Hayes (1129)	3
331	Ctt. Valentine Day	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	2

Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm

327	Rlc. (Redland Delight x Serene Sunset)	Rowan Crowhurst (763)	3
328	C. Margaret Dengenhardt	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	2

Laeliinae - Standard under 100mm

329	C. Lani Bird	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	1
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Oncidiinae - Hybrid > 60mm

345	Wils. Pui Chin 'Flying Tiger'	Daniel & Andrew Lutz (709)	3
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Oncidiinae - Species

346	Cu. pulchella 'Giganteum'	Rowan Crowhurst (763)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

350	Coel. Unchained Melody	Paul & Donja Hayes (1129)	3
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Orchid Seedling - any Genera

351	Cym. (Lunar Blaze x Flaming Vulcan)	Bill Jayne (1180)	3
352	Rlc. (Redland Delight x Serene Sunset)	Rowan Crowhurst (763)	2
353	Cym. (Winter Valley x Sleeping Sharon)	Bill Jayne (1180)	1

Paphiopedilum - Non Standard

347	Paph. Maudiae	Bill Jayne (1180)	3
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MEMBERS PLEASE CHECK THIS LIST WITH YOUR PLANT LABELS

THE FOLLOWING ORCHIDS HAVE BEEN REGISTERED OR HAD A GENUS CHANGE

<u>Grower Number</u>	<u>Crossing</u>	<u>Registration</u>
763	Den. [(Jombock x bigibbum) x speciosum]	Den. (Hot Pink x speciosum)
709	Cym. (Tethy's x Sarah Jean)	Cym. mem. Athalie Elizabeth

PLEASE CHANGE YOUR LABELS TO THE NEW REGISTERED NAME

Thank you.

Sue Zerbe

Registrar of Judges

September Plant Commentary

FLOWER OF FIRST DIVISION AND FLOWER OF THE NIGHT: *Dendrobium* Victorian Splendour 'Ross Watts' grown by Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju. This was a really beautiful orchid to behold, 133 inflorescences every little flower, cream/yellow face with purple dappled petals and a deep burgundy labellum stood up and looked at you. I should say, there was so many flowers on the inflorescences that they could not be counted. Michael and Oui, an orchid to be very proud of. Thank you for sharing it with us. This orchid was judged and awarded on the night and was given a ACM – an Award of Cultural Merit as well as a HCC – Highly Commended Certificate. Well done to you both.



POPULAR VOTE WINNER: (above) *Dendrobium* Victoria Splendour 'Ross Watts': was grown by Michael Willoughby and Oui Ju. You have had a wonderful night tonight showing us this magnificent orchid and I am sure everyone who set eyes on it were truly amazed at such a great specimen. Michael said it wasn't till they potted it into a larger pot that it took off like there was no tomorrow.

FLOWER OF OPEN DIVISION: *Dendrobium teretifolium*: grown by Geoff and Lucy Spear. What a sight this orchid was, having just too many flowers to count. They were the typical very fine white delicate flowers of this species on tiny little inflorescences cascading down, definitely an orchid anyone would wish to have in their collection. Thank you Geoff and Lucy.



September Plant Commentary (cont.)

FLOWER OF SECOND DIVISION: *Paphiopedilum Maudiae* was grown by Bill Jayne. This was a tall strong inflorescence, the dorsal was green striped from the Centre to outer burgundy stripes continuing up to a white tip and the two long petals were green fading in to burgundy also white tipped and a contrasting white pollen cap. Congratulations Bill.



SEEDLING OF THE NIGHT & CHIN YEW LIAN TROPHY: *Cymbidium* (Lunar Blaze x Flaming Vulcan) grown by Bill Jayne. Blossoming from a strong inflorescence were seven well shaped flowers, self-striped in pink/red with a white labellum with fine red patterns. This is a very attractive orchid Bill.



GARARD/WESTERN SEEDLING: *Cymbidium* Magic Wall: was grown by Pauline and Mark Hockey. This young plant had ten yellow flowers with beautiful red stripes on the labellum. I am sure that when it reaches adulthood, it will make a wonderful specimen. Another exciting seedling from the Hockey Stud.



Sue Zerbe
Registrar of Judges

Orchid Culture Notes for October

With the shows almost over we return back to our orchid enclosures and commence one of the most important periods in the orchid calendar. It is called maintenance and whether we like it or not, it is an important factor in the upkeep of our collections.

Re potting, potting on, dividing and feeding marks what I call the busiest time of the year.

After flowering many of our plants commence a new season growth. This growth can be retarded somewhat if the flowers are left on too long, especially with orchids that hold their flowers for a long time. So the decision is do we cut them off after displays etc? This is a personal choice. Some will say in nature they don't get cut off. True. But how many grow here & how many are so far removed from their original parentage that they don't know what they are anymore. My preference is that short lived flowers such as the natives stay on until they drop but those that stay on longer such as the cymbidiums get about four weeks before I cut them and bring them inside. Other even longer lasting orchids like the Paphiopedilums seem to do ok regardless of how long they stay in flower. Only experience with your orchid in your environment will answer this question correctly. Other factors to take into account are the size of your plants. A large and well grown plant can support large or multiple racemes but what of a small first flowering seedling or a plant stressed from the previous year division flowering in a last effort to reproduce and survive. It is best to remove these flower spikes early rather than subject the plant to too much added stress. Some *Oncidium* seedlings come to mind here, literally flowering themselves to death as a first flowering plant. What about those plants stressed after being in a shopping centre or the show for days on end. I find it best to give these plants a rest and remove the inflorescences. Again I stress, this is my personal choice and is up to the individual to do what they wish with their plants.

Native dendrobiums should have flowers cut once they start to droop and lose substance. Spent flowers that drop onto leaves and new growths etc soon go mouldy and attract fungal problems. One little insect bite or a damaged leaf etc will provide the perfect entry point for fungus and in the warmth and moisture of October this spreads rapidly. Now is also a good time to pot on and divide native dendrobiums as they commence new growth and re-establish quickly. Look for the commencement of new root growth with the new canes. Don't over pot natives & allow enough room for two years growth. This is a good rule of thumb. Always inspect the roots to see how your culture has been. The pots should have roots growing round and round the inside edge of the pot. They should be white and firm with many growing tips. The centre of the plant has fewer roots and most of these will be previous roots, brown and dead looking. If your roots are sparse all through the mix or rotted then you have a cultural problem. There could be many reasons for this. Too much water, the mix has broken down and become acidic, over fertilising or feeding when the plant is dormant or the plant being cold and wet when it should be cold and dry. This applies especially to the hot/colds. For the newer growers a hot/cold dendrobium is a hybrid where a cool grower such as a *Den. speciosum* is crossed with a warm grower such as *Den. bigibbum*. It gives you a plant that often flowers earlier or later than most natives. The flowers last longer and are usually larger and more colourful than the cooler growers. These are rapidly gaining popularity. Treat them the same as the normal cool growers during the growing season but keep a little drier in winter and provide them with more light by hanging them above the collection.

Zygopetalums should just about be finished flowering now and large plants can be split. As with most orchids it pays to keep your divisions to a good size of three or four growths as a minimum to ensure flowering next season. Keep an eye out for the spring looper caterpillars under the leaves from now. They are fond of the soft new leaves of your zygoes and one or two loopers will make a mess of new growths over night. Spray with mancozeb every two months to keep fungal problems to a minimum. Keep water and fertiliser out of the new growths. With fungal problems rife in October your Zygopetalum will be the first to lose growths thru rot. At worst it will keep 2 or 3 leaves and will be severely set back, so much so, it may not even produce a worthwhile back bulb, let alone anything strong enough to support a strong growth next year with a flower spike.

Native terrestrials start to look a little sick from now as they begin to yellow and enter summer dormancy. Reduce the watering as they enter dormancy.

New growths on the Cattleyas and *Oncidiums* start to move now and many will show new roots starting to appear. This tells you they are now becoming more receptive to feeding and watering. Aquasol, Thrive and any feed with a high nitrogen component will suffice at this time. With the new roots forming tells you it is also a good time to divide and re pot these two genera. The new roots continue to grow to support the division, often will very little set back. Do this at the wrong time and watch your plant wither and struggle.

If you do decide to break up an *Oncidium* or a Cattleya/Laeliinae do this before the roots get too long and are easily broken. Secondly if they grow long they become accustomed to an aerial existence and will rot off when placed into the damp confines of a potting mix. Make sure your division is securely positioned in the pot until it establishes.

Orchid Culture Notes for October (cont.)

Sarcochilus will rapidly be showing their flower spikes now as well and it won't be long before we see plenty of flowers. These are one orchid that likes a very weak fertiliser as the roots are highly sensitive. If you see them lose their green tips shortly after a feed then that's the sign that says oops...too strong or I have some micro slugs in the mix. Don't worry, they'll find your flowers sooner or later if you don't bait them now! Keep them moist also as they do not have any pseudobulbs to fall back upon in times of dryness. Rainwater is best if you can provide it and look at increasing the shade levels as well as the sun's intensity rapidly increases this month.

For those that fancy growing orchids on mounts, spring is a good time to start them off as they readily establish when new roots become evident. A good lesson here is to observe the roots. If they touch the mount and die or brown off then they are saying that host is unsuitable. Orchids are wonderful plants. They tell you when something is not to their liking. Learn to observe these signs and you are well on your way to mastering them. Overlook them and your plant will struggle and even die.

Other chores this month involve moving your plants around as the seasons change. I love moving my plants around as I strive to find the sweet spots in my shade house. I provide high light for those that like it, cool shady spots for those that hate the heat and the harsh Adelaide sun. I observe the changing microclimates and most of all make sure I don't grow the orchid that didn't flower this year in the same spot with the same treatment. Plants hung high should be lowered a little as the sun's intensity increases dramatically this month and temperatures rise. Remember these exposed plants will need water more often.

With November nearly on our doorstep we need little reminding that a hot and stressful summer is just around the corner.

Steve Howard

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. Marys. Beginners' Class starts at 7.15 pm. Meeting at 8.00 pm.

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

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

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

THE DAYTIME GROUP: meets from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm 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 1.45 pm 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 7.30 pm 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 7.30 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

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

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

Our Affiliated Clubs:

The Murray Bridge and Districts Orchid Club.

The Orchid Club of S.A. Inc.

AFFILIATED CLUBS

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

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

