



THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB GAZETTE

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MAY ISSUE 1993

NEXT MEETING:

AUTUMN SHOW
8pm. Tuesday 11th May 1993.
Lutheran Church Hall, Windsong Crt, Christie Dwns
Benching of plants to be completed by 7.45pm for
judging to commence.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Mr Chas. Amee will give us an insight into his
growing methods for Cattleya Orchids. Chas has
taken many prizes for his orchids over the years
and I'm sure he will have a few tips for members.

SUPPER:

Mrs L. Larsen will be in charge.

HALL SET-UP

Would all willing to assist **please** arrive by 7pm.

DAYTIME CHAPTER:

2pm. Thursday 13th May 1993, South Brighton
Community Hall, Dover Square Reserve, Broadway,
South Brighton. Mr Bill Fisher will give us an
insight into his growing methods for an
assortment of cold growing genera.

TRADING TABLE:

Mr Denis Daykin will be in charge.

COMMITTEE MEETING:

7.30pm. Tuesday 20th April at the South Brighton
Community Hall.

Don and Joan Wells were welcomed by Keith Northcote along with the 22 members gathered for the Daytime Chapter.

Apologies were received from Helen Edwards and Connie Stevens.

Keith commented on the recent Easter barbeque noting it had been a very pleasant outing and a credit to the organizers. This was readily endorsed by those who had attended.

Don, a life member of the Native Orchid Society of South Australia, then addressed the meeting and showed slides of native orchids in the bush.

"After being bitten by the Orchid Bug and gaining the pleasure of 'making it' with cymbidiums what else can be achieved," he asked. Natives can be grown along with the cymbidiums if it is remembered that their natural growing area is mainly down the Eastern States and Victoria where weather conditions differ greatly from here. The Hunter Region of N.S.W. is a prolific area as it is the meeting place for those growing to the north with an all-season but mainly summer predominant rainfall and those from Victoria which has an all-season but winter predominant rainfall.

The three species of native cymbidiums are *suave* and *canaliculatum*, found on the rain-shadow side of the Great Dividing Range, and *madidum* found in fern country on the edge of the rain forests.

Most of the slides were from the Hunter to Murwillumbah region and showed, among others, *Dendrobium speciosum* high up in the trees and clinging to rocks, *Sarcochilus* in Barrington Tops, thumbnail orchids in Pillar Valley and "the best *sarcochilus* in Australia" from the Blue Knob in Nightcap Range.

The range of orchids on display was quite impressive and varied. Don gave his vote to Rosalie Moore's *Onc. Milky Way*. The members tied Keith's *C. Minerva* with Rosalie's *oncidium* followed

by *Catasetum fimbriatum* and *Stellamizutaara Kelly 'Lea'*.

The raffle plants were from Noarlunga Orchids, Ralph Barrett and Keith Northcote.

A chat and cuppa concluded the meeting.

MELBOURNE BUS TRIP

L. GUNN

20th - 22nd August

The price is dependent on the number of people going, but approx. \$160 per head. This will include the bus fare and accommodation and continental breakfast on the Sunday.

The tour will leave at approx. 8.00am from the Marion Shopping Centre.

The luxury coach has seating for 20, lots of leg room, fully carpeted, air-conditioned and toilet facilities.

Tea and coffee will be served en-route.

We will stop at Tailem Bend, lunch at Bordertown for one hour, and another stop at Horsham or soon after.

Expected time of arrival in Melbourne will be 6 - 6.30pm.

Time to freshen up and then we will be driven to a nearby hotel to purchase dinner. (The meals are reasonable priced).

Saturday - proposed visits to :-

1. Peninsula Orchids - huge range of Cymbidiums - many Paphiopedilums and some Zygos.

2. Dingley Fern Market - specialising in Australian Natives. There is also a heated glasshouse. Many pots and crafts for sale.

3. Lunch at Collectors Corner and then the rest of the afternoon you can relax and browse through the wonderful and wide assortment of Cymbidiums, Australian Natives, Cattleyas, Species etc. There is also two heated glasshouses and a library with a good range of Orchid books.

Back to the Motel and then to dinner at the Hotel again.

Sunday - An early start to visit Mandurang Nursery near Bendigo. They have a selection of Cymbidiums, Zygos, and Natives.

Expected arrival home - early Sunday evening.

* Deposit of \$50 per head required at the June meetings. Balance at the August meetings. There are still 5 seats available.

DAY TRIP

L. GUNN

25th July

Colonnades pick-up 8.30am

Marion pick-up 9.00am

Arrival at Peter Chiles for morning tea.

He has a large collection of Cymbidiums.

Lunch venue still to be decided.

On to Nicky's for a talk on Paphiopedilums and time to browse through his wonderful display.

Arrive back approx. 5.00pm.

Price \$15 per head. This is for the bus only.

*Deposit of \$5.00 per head required at the June meetings. Balance by the July meetings.

If you would like to go on this trip and haven't put your name down please contact Lesley or Dale. There may be a cancellation.

ORCHID DAY

R. WILSON

The South Coast Orchid Club has been invited to put a display in a general Orchid Day being held at Victor Harbor Lutheran Church Complex on September 25th 1993. If you are interested please contact Lesley Gunn for further details.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

The South Coast Orchid Club is still without a Secretary. **Please can you help ?.**

Also we need a convenor for the trading table at our Shows.

NO convenor means

NO trading table means

NO pocket money.

RAFFLE PLANTS

Raffle plants for April were supplied by Noarlunga Orchids.

EUROPEAN ORCHIDS

GEORGE NIEUWENHOVEN

We, of European heritage, with some justification, probably think that we were amongst the first to use and cultivate orchids. The Chinese, however as with so many things, beat us to it by a big margin. Some of the earliest written records were made during the Chinese dynasty. In it *Cymbidium ensifolium* is discussed under the herbal section and it goes something like this; "The thickened root when boiled in water and mixed with fermented rice is good for curing stomach ache." I am not sure whether it was the orchid roots or the alcohol in the fermented mix that made them feel better, but it certainly is a novel way to get rid of your spare cymbidiums.

Some very early European literature mentions the aphrodisiac qualities of orchid tubers, these mythical qualities were attributed solely on the basis of the testes like shape of the tubers. I have not tried them myself, but if it works, selling the tubers could become quite a growth industry for some enterprising person, where they could rival rhino horn or deer antlers amongst the Chinese. A different use again from the above is mentioned by a well known Dutch author. Orchid tubers were collected on a large scale in Turkey up until the 1970s. They were used to make Salep powder, an ingredient in the manufacture of icecream and also prized as a home remedy for the common cold. In those places where the tubers were intensively collected very few plants are found nowadays.

Distribution: European orchids are found from the Azores to Iran and the Arctic circle to North Africa. Also large areas of the former Soviet Union, but their main distribution is around the Mediterranean with Greece, Turkey, Italy and Spain accounting for most of the Ophrys or Bee orchids.

36 genera of orchids occur in Europe with approximately 200 species plus subspecies

depending on which book you are reading or expert you are talking to. European orchids have been investigated quite thoroughly over the years, by them. but in common with botanists in other parts of the world, they don't always agree with each other and each new book published sees new changes, but the orchids always remain the same.

Epiphytes do not occur in Europe, only terrestrials.

Habitat: The habitat of the various genera in Europe are similar to those occurring in Australia. Many grow in dry areas, swamps are good places to look for them, grassland are good hunting grounds, but some of the richest orchid areas are mountainous regions. Name a habitat and there will be an orchid filling the niche. One niche they have filled, unlike their Australian counterparts, are previously cultivated or disturbed areas. Known examples are road edges and disused vineyards in countries such as France and Italy, in Greece you'll find Bee orchids amongst the temples, so mind your step when YOU go there. Another outstanding example occurred after World War 1. Orchids appeared in large numbers on the edges of bomb craters and trenches of the abandoned battlefields which had not yet started to be reused for farming or forestry. In Britain, orchids are often found in old quarries or gravel pits.

They are true survivors, and they need to be, for they are now under pressure from collectors who want to cultivate them.

A majority of European orchids enjoy alkaline conditions, particularly the *Ophrys orchis* and *serapias*, but due to gradual acidification of the soil in some of the favourite haunts of the orchids, many are now disappearing. Not only have farming activities such as the use of artificial fertilisers had its effect, but also the intensive husbandry of farm animals.

The by-products of animals, namely manure and urine has drastically changed the pH level of soils on many farms in highly populated countries like the Netherlands, consequently a number of orchids and other native plants have either drastically reduced in number or disappeared altogether.

Very old farming methods such as cutting the grass with a scythe are beneficial for a number of species of orchid because it reduced competition from more aggressive plants and increases the amount of light reaching the orchid plants, thus stimulating them into flower production.

Culture: Many European orchids grow very well under the same conditions as their Australian cousins, which is not surprising as our climate is very similar to that found around the Mediterranean. A shadehouse covered with 50% shadecloth is ideal for most species.

Benches: Benches raised off the ground for better air circulation, besides when you get older you don't have to bend so far to inspect your plants. Plastic pots are good or anything else that you fancy to use, pots are only a vessel to hold the soil, but porous ones dry out quicker, so it probably pays to stick to one kind in a collection of plants.

Soil: It must be well drained and not remain wet, a mix of sharp sand and soil, say 60% soil and 40% sand will do. You can add some decomposed leaf litter and cover the top of the pot with more leaf litter or chopped pine needles. A layer of coarse sand or fine gravel would also do if you merely want to stop soil splash.

Watering: It depends on the genus- *Orchid*, *Ophrys* and *Serapias*, three of the common genera in cultivation like a moist growing period from autumn til spring, then a dry dormancy. However *Dactylorhiza* which appears to be very similar to *Orchid* has a winter dormancy and grows from early spring through summer. This genus seems to like wetter conditions while growing and should not be allowed to dry

out completely while dormant. When making up compost you may need to add some lime as I have mentioned many European orchids naturally occur on alkaline soils.

Those of you that already successfully grow Australian terrestrial orchids won't have any trouble growing European orchids.

Finally placement of your shadehouse is important as nearby trees can influence the amount of light falling on the plants, heavily shaded plants

will not flower properly and makes for weak plants.

SICK CHICKS

It was good to see a couple of our previously 'sick chicks' at the last cultural meeting looking fit and well. I hear the fellows are trying to get in on the act now and we have one contemplating surgery in the not too distant future. Good luck and get well quickly.

FLOWER OF THE MONTH: C. BACTIA 'FOREVER YOURS' grown by T.DeIonno
 Tony's C. Bactia also won Flower of the Month in April last year. It is a primary hybrid, being a crossing of the species *C.bowringiana* and *C. guttata*. This hybrid was actually registered with The Royal Horticultural Society which is the International Authority for the Registration of Orchid Hybrids 92 years ago.

OPEN DIVISION		Judges	Syd Monkhouse Jim Shaunnessy
Aust Nat.Terr:Species	Ptst.obtusa		R. & B.Anderson 3
	Ptst. truncata		R. & B.Anderson 2
Intermediate Cymbidium	Mini Verde		R. Moore 3
	Minilady 'Touch of class'		K.H.Northcote 2
	Jessie Blackestone X		J. Nicholls 1
	Peter Pan		
Miniature Cymbidium	Mini Splendour		R. Moore 3
Standard Cattleya	C. Hawaiian Wedding Song		R. & B.Anderson 3
Cluster Cattleya	C. Bactia 'Forever Yours'		T. DeIonno 3
	C. Minerva 'Highercombe'		T. DeIonno 2
	C. Minerva 'Easter Bouquet'		K.Northcote 1
Novelty Cattleya	Slc. Franchise		R. & B.Anderson 3
Nov. Cluster Cattleya	C. Meadii 'Eucla'		K. Northcote 3
Cocktail Cattleya	Lc. Burgundy Gem		R. & B.Anderson 3
	*Lc. Burgundy Gem		R. Moore 2
Dendrobium	Misty Green X Anna Bibus		J. Nicholls 3
	Lily Yang X lasianthera		J. Nicholls 2
	Walter Oumae X Singapore		
	White X Jac-Thomas		J. Nicholls 1
Phalaenopsis	Puerto Princesa		K. Northcote 3
Nov. Paphiopedilum	chamberlainianum X praestans		R. Moore 3
Species Paphiopedilum	sukhakulii		R. Moore 3
Odont/Oncidium Alliance	Onc. Milky Way		R. Moore 3
	Onc. Milky Way		T. DeIonno 2
	Milt. Olmec		J. Nicholls 1
Species	Barkeria lindleyana		J. Nicholls 3
	Onc. truliferom		J. Nicholls 2
	Catasetum fimbriatum		R. Moore 1
Cattleya & Mis. Genera	Stlma. Kelly 'Lea'		R. Moore 3
	Otaara Jane Fumiya		R. & B.Anderson 2
	Ctna. Why Not		T. DeIonno 1
Vandeous	Rntda. Patrick Tam		J. Nicholls 3
	Asco. Yip Sum Wah		J. Nicholls 2

FLOWER OF THE DIVISION; C. BACTIA 'FOREVER YOURS' grown by T. DeIonno

First Division	Judges	R. Moore K. Northcote	
Intermediate Cymbidium	Mini Verde	M. Cunningham	2
Miniature Cymbidium	Peter pan X Ovation	W. & M. Vaughan	2
Standard Cattleya	Pot. Congaree	C. Ameer	3
	Blc. Alma Kee 'Tipmalee'	B. & R. Nurse	2
	Blc. Toshie Aoki 'Robin'	N. Wolfendale	1
Cluster Cattleya	Lc. Amy Smyth	F. Bell	3
Nov. Cattleya	*Bc. Jackson Majewski	N. Wolfendale	3
Nov. Cluster Cattleya	C. Minerva 'Highercombe'	C. Ameer	3
	C. Minerva 'Highercombe'	R. Wilson	2
	C. Browniae	C. & H. Edwards	1
Miscellaneous	Z. Titanic 'Hove'	N. Wolfendale	3
	Hmwsa. June '45'	N. Wolfendale	2
Nov. Paphiopedilum	<i>moquettianum</i> X <i>rothschildianum</i>	R. Parish	3
Odont/Oncidium Alliance	Onc. Confetti	A. & M. Moffat	3
	Miltassia Estrelita	C. Ameer	2
	Onc. Kaulani	B. & R. Nurse	1
Species	C. <i>bicolor</i>	R. Wilson	3
	C. <i>bowringiana</i>	C. Ameer	2

FLOWER OF THE DIVISION : Pot. CONGAREE 'MENDENHALL' grown by C. Ameer

Second Division	Judge	T. Tormet	
Intermediate Cymbidium	Mesa Zia 'Dawn'	P. O'Brien	3
	Peter Pan	Mr & Mrs A.G Thompson	2
Miniature Cymbidium	Mini Splendor	J. & M. Cunningham	3
	Paul Miller	Mr & Mrs A.G Thompson	2
	Mini Splendor	L. Gunn	1
Novelty Cattleya	C. Intermediette X C. <i>skinneri</i>	Bob Way	3
Nov. Cluster Cattleya	Minerva 'Highercombe'	J. Dudley	3
Cocktail Cattleya	Slc. Hazel Boyd X Slc. Kauai Starbright	D. Daykin	3
Miscellaneous	Epidendrum	P. O'Brien	3
	Epidendrum	J. Dudley	2
	Epidendrum	N. Gitsham	1
Species	Onc. <i>varicosum</i>	L. Gunn	3
	Cattleya <i>bowringiana</i>	Mr & Mrs A. Thompson	2
Cattleya & Mis. Genera	Bpl. Freya	P. & G. Flavel	3

FLOWER OF THE DIVISION : C. MINERVA 'HIGHERCOMBE' grown by J. Dudley

SHOW SCHEDULE FOR THE WINTER SHOW 1993

CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES

- GRAND CHAMPION
- RESERVE CHAMPION
- Champion Open Division
- Champion First Division
- Champion Second Division
- Champion Standard Cymbidium
- Champion Intermediate Cymbidium
- Champion Miniature Cymbidium
- Champion Paphiopedilum
- Champion Odont/Oncidium
- Champion Phalaenopsis
- Champion Cattleya
- Champion Dendrobium
- Champion Australian Native
- Champion Genera Not Yet Listed
- Champion Species
- Champion Seedling

CARD CLASSES (1st Only)

- Best white std cymbidium
- Best red std cymbidium
- Best pink std cymbidium
- Best green std cymbidium
- Best yellow std cymbidium
- Best brown standard cymbidium
- Best any other colour cymbidium
- Best 3 for colour std cymbidium
- Best decorative std cymbidium
- Best seedling std cymbidium
- Best specimen std cymbidium
- Best white int cymbidium
- Best red int cymbidium
- Best pink int cymbidium
- Best green int cymbidium
- Best yellow int cymbidium
- Best brown int cymbidium
- Best any other colour int cymbidium
- Best 3 for colour int cymbidium]
- Best decorative int cymbidium
- Best seedling Int cymbidium
- Best specimen int cymbidium
- Best white mini cymbidium
- Best red min cymbidium
- Best pink mini cymbidium
- Best green mini cymbidium
- Best yellow mini cymbidium]

- Best brown mini cymbidium]
- Best any other colour mini cymbidium
- Best 3 for colour mini cymbidium
- Best decorative mini cymbidium
- Best seedling mini cymbidium
- Best specimen miniature cymbidium
- Best species cymbidium
- Best exhibition type cattleya alliance
- Best cluster type cattleya
- Best novelty type cattleya
- Best novelty cluster type cattleya
- Best cocktail type cattleya
- Best seedling cattleya
- Best specimen cattleya
- Best species cattleya
- Best intergeneric cattleya
- Best intergeneric cattleya seedling
- Best std paphiopedilum
- Best novelty paphiopedilum
- Best seedling paphiopedilum
- Best species paphiopedilum
- Best std phalaenopsis
- Best novelty phalaenopsis
- Best seedling phalaenopsis
- Best species phalaenopsis
- Best hybrid odont/ Oncidium alliance
- Best seedling odont/ Oncidium alliance
- Best species odont/ Oncidium alliance
- Best aust native epi species
- Best aust native epi hybrid
- Best aust native terr species
- Best aust native terr hybrid
- Best aust native seedling
- Best dendrobium hybrid (not aust native)
- Best dendrobium seedling (not aust native)
- Best dendrobium species (not aust species)
- Best zygopetalum hybrid
- Best zygopetalum seedling
- Best zygopetalum species
- Best hybrid orchid not otherwise classified
- Best seedling orchid not otherwise classified
- Best specimen orchid not otherwise classified
- Best species orchid not otherwise classified.