

The South Coast Orchid Club of SA Inc.

# Gazette

February  
2017



**PRESIDENT: Michael Willoughby**  
**PATRON: Sydney Monkhouse**

## AT A GLANCE

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the South Coast Orchid Club of South Australia will be held on Wednesday 1st February 2017 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 2017, the Popular Vote for the winning Orchid for 2016, and the presentation of Trophies for the winning Orchid Growers in 2016.

The February general meeting of the Club will follow the Annual General Meeting. Our Guest Speaker will be Stephen Monkhouse with a video presentation of *Cattleya* potting, etc. The meeting will finish a little later than usual at 10.00pm. **PLEASE BRING A PLATE** for Supper.

**BEGINNERS' GROUP:** The next class will be 1st March 2017.

**DAYTIME CHAPTER:** The next meeting will be held at Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton on Thursday, 9th February 2017 at 2.00 pm. Our Guest Speaker will be Geoff Spear discussing caring for your plants at the change of seasons.

**SOUTHERN REGION:** The next meeting will be held at 2 pm on Sunday 19th February 2017 in Carrickalinga House, 17-19 Torrens Street, Victor Harbor. Our Guest Speaker will be Graham Zerbe whose presentation is designed around the newer members and will be a refresher course for all members. I always enjoy this and pick up information on things I have forgotten.

**NEW MEMBERS:** We welcome Leslie Sheehan as a new member to our Daytime Chapter. May your orchid days with us be happy times, Lesley.

**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,

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

**E-Mail:** [lucys18@bigpond.com](mailto:lucys18@bigpond.com)

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**Address:** 6 David Street Happy Valley 5159

ABN 83 245 384 076

## CHANGE OF PERSONNEL – TRADING TABLE AND KITCHEN

### Trading Table:

Don Greig has agreed to look after and sell products from the trading table on main meeting nights. We extend a big Thank You to Max Almond for taking the position of Trading Table officer over the last couple of years.

### Supper:

Shirley Greig has agreed to look after supper on main meeting nights. All members are asked to support and assist Shirley in any way they can. A great big THANK YOU to Dorothy for the time she has put into this position. She would now like time to mingle with members and welcome newcomers and visitors..

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for 2017 are now due. We do value your membership and seeing you at meetings each month. Subscriptions rates are unchanged from last year and one membership covers all groups within the Club.

### RATES – One membership covers all groups

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

<b><u>Rural and Interstate Membership</u></b>	
<b>Family Membership</b>	<b>\$34.00</b>
<b>Single Membership</b>	<b>\$28.00</b>

## YOUR 2016 COMMITTEE

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	<b>Michael Willoughby</b>
<b>SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT:</b>	<b>Geoffrey Spear</b>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT:</b>	<b>Donna Meeuwesen</b>
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	<b>Lucy Spear</b>
<b>TREASURER:</b>	<b>Barbara Almond</b>
<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	<b>Dorothy Carassai, Oui Ju, Heather Wright, Christine Robertson, Shirley Greig, Don Greig, David Hayhurst</b>

<b>NON COMMITTEE POSITIONS:</b>	
<b>Registrar</b>	<b>Phillip Steer</b>
<b>Editor</b>	<b>Christine Robertson</b>
<b>Web Master</b>	<b>Michael Willoughby</b>

## **LIFE MEMBERS**

\* denotes Member who has passed away.

1978 Dulcie Grave	1986 Harry Viney *	2009 Don Biebrick
1978 Leora Harvey	1986 John Nichols	2009 Henk Van Leuveran
1978 L. & H. Poole*	1989 Helen Edwards	2010 Dorothy Carassai
1978 Ellie Shaw*	2003 Norman Gitcham	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 Deonno*	2015 Rod McRedmond
1981 John Leader*	2007 Ron and Irene Parish	
1985 Brenda Lynch	2007 Murray Baulderstone *	This list is still being
1985 Bubs Gready *	2008 Geoff and Lucy Spear	compiled.

## ORCHID CALENDAR FOR 2017

### S.A.R.O.C. FAIR

The 2017 SAROC Fair will be held at the Torrens Drill Hall, King William Road, Adelaide on the long weekend Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 June.

**Dinner** will be held at the Drill Hall after the Show closes on Saturday.

Caterer's Texas Bull Machine BYO

Cost: \$25 Book in and pay our Treasurer Deposit \$15.00

Final Payment \$10.00 at our May meeting.

Raffle. This will be a Fun Day, come along and join in the fun.

### AUTUMN SHOW

Sunday 6th to Saturday 13th May 2017 at Pasadena Shopping Centre.

### WINTER SHOW

Sunday 22nd to Saturday 29th July 2017 at Hallett Cove Shopping Centre.

### SPRING SHOW

Sunday 23rd to Saturday 30th September 2017 at Seaford Rise Shopping Centre, Seaford

**SOUTHERN REGION SHOW** Thursday 24th to Sunday 27th August at RSL Hall, Victor Harbor

## CAN YOU HELP YOUR CLUB

Remain after the main meeting to help clean up the hall and kitchen.

Help at our Shows by manning the trading table between 7.00a.m. and 9.00p.m. Dorothy draws up a 3 hourly roster. A responsible person must be in charge at all times during shopping hours e.g. Lucy, Dorothy.

Assist in transporting trestles etc. for judging to Hamilton Secondary College on the Friday prior to the Show.

After judging on the Saturday of the Show, assist with transporting props and plants to Show locations.

Assist with putting in and taking out at the Show.

Have knowledge of orchids and a rapport with people so that the public can be helped when purchasing from the trading table.

It would be appreciated if members who have a van could assist with the transporting of equipment and plants.

## HELP WANTED FOR WORKSHOPS IN 2017

We are seeking 6 members with a shed or covered outdoor area to hold workshops for the months of February, 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.



# Happy Birthday .....

**January:**

**Kevin Western, Lucy Spear, Heather Wright,  
Rowan Crowhurst, Bev Gay, Des Alsop**

**February:**

**Shirley Greig, Bill Trevaskis, Shirley Gordon**



Is your name in the Birthday Book ?? Please see - Heather Wright

## INTRODUCING OUR NEW TREASURER

### ANNE STEER

Anne works in child care, but she has previously worked for the Commonwealth Bank. Anne and her husband Phil re-joined the club 18 months ago after being away for a number of years due to work commitments. This time they have had the courage to bring plants to be judged, both to meetings and shows.

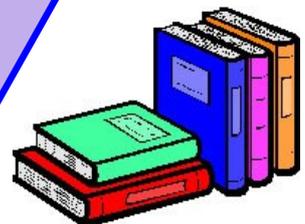
Anne is a keen gardener, and enjoys having a vegetable garden, lots of roses and a large front garden with a range of natives and flowers. She enjoys having cut flowers in the house. Her interest in orchids began as an admiration for the Cymbidium flowers with all the different colours. To Phil's annoyance she refers to them by their colours and not their official names!

Anne and Phil mainly have Cymbidiums and native orchids. Anne admits that the lounge is gradually being taken over with Phalaenopsis. This year they have grown Sarcocylus, Cattleya, and Zygopetalums. Anne assists Phil in the care and repotting of the orchids, but admits she has so much to learn about their care to promote flower growth.

Her other interests are a good book and tapestry. They have a number of young grandchildren who they spend as much time with as possible.

### NEEDED—ONE LIBRARIAN

The Club has an extensive library of various orchid related books and magazines. A Librarian is urgently needed to facilitate the borrowing of library items at the meetings, to add to our collection and to make the library more accessible to our members at all of our groups. Please talk to Lucy if you would like to help in this area.



## **PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT**

Firstly, Committee members and I wish members and families a Happy and Prosperous New Year. The elements have not been kind to orchid growers over the past few years. However, thanks to you, we have had a very successful and satisfying year of results.



Let's recap on 2016: At the December meeting our Club Patron Syd Monkhouse gave a very interesting talk on the only World Orchid Conference held in Australia (Sydney 1969) and other World Orchid Conferences that have been hosted throughout the world. He posed the question "Is it time Australia put in a bid for another World Orchid Conference?". Thank you to the man in red who is always a very special guest at our Christmas party with his wonderful stories. Syd and Shirley Monkhouse donated a beautiful painting (painted by Syd) to the Club. This painting is reported to be Syd's last. A decision will be made at the next Committee meeting as to how we will promote the painting.

Daytime Chapter: The Daytime membership has again improved in 2016 which is heartening to see. Very interesting plants have been benched for us all to enjoy. Thank you Dorothy for all your hard work; it is appreciated.

Southern Region: It has been two years now that the S.R. Group has been integrated into the points system and it has been a relatively smooth transition with some members benching plants regularly at the main meeting. I would like to thank Noel Oliver, John and Bev Gay and Graham and Sue Zerbe for all the time and wonderful knowledge they have contributed to assist with the growth of this Group.

During the year your Club took part in the New Year BBQ, SAROC Fair, Autumn, Winter and Spring Shows, Southern Region Show, BBQ at Bunnings, and enjoyed very interesting speakers at meetings. My personal thanks to everyone who helped in the running of the Club. It was a very busy year with the weather having a significant effect, causing much earlier flowering or late in some cases and affecting our Spring Show with destructive storms.

Thank you to you the members who come to our meetings. The numbers were great. The Club had 13 new members join in 2016. All Main Meetings were well attended, add the Groups to this 35 - 40 SR Group and 15 - 20 Daytime Chapter. Thank you to Lucy and Dorothy for the many hats they wear to make this a very well organised Club. Thanks also to Donna for the assistance she gives to Committee and Displays. Thanks to Leslie Gunn as well as Helmut & Ursula Herrmann for putting together the displays for the Shows during the year. Congratulations to Phil Steer who agreed to take on the Registrar position and with a steep learning curve ahead of him, handled the position with great composure. Thanks also to all the judges for their tireless efforts and also our typists, Bev Gay and Leslie Fenton.

My thoughts are with members who have been very ill and families who have had bereavements. Thank you to all who gave up their precious time to assist with Shows and meetings. Finally, I wish you all a wonderful 2017. May your hobby give you lots of pleasure. Successful growing and showing

*Michael*

**2016 AUDITOR'S REPORT*****Susan Nash & Associates***  
***Accountant & Registered Tax Agent***

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To: The Committee and Members  
South Coast Orchid Club of SA Inc.

**South Coast Orchid Club of SA Inc.****INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT**  
**For the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

We have audited the financial statements of the South Coast Orchid Club of SA Inc. for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016. The financial statements comprise the Statement of Income and Expenditure (Cash Flow) and the Statement of Assets. The South Coast Orchid Club's committee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial statements in order to express an opinion on it to the members.

**AUDIT APPROACH**

Our Audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Our procedures include examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates.

These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, and the Club's constitution so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the South Coast Orchid Club of SA Inc. financial position, the results of its operations and its cash flows.

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE**

The main sources of revenue for the club are receipts from membership subscriptions, sales at various shows during the year and fund raising activities such as social events, commissions on sales, BBQ's and raffles. The main expenses relate to payments for

various shows including payments to members for flowers sold, hall hire, social and fundraising expenses and provision of member services such as newsletters.

In conducting the audit we have relied on bank statements, bank deposits, such receipts and invoices as were made available and the treasurer's monthly reconciliation of receipts and payments. It was not possible to ascertain as to whether the income from membership subscription and sales is complete so we are unable to express an opinion on that.

We have tested several months income and expenses and various randomly selected transactions throughout the year and have discovered no significant anomalies.

#### STATEMENT OF ASSETS

We have reconciled the bank statements and note that they agree with the figures included on the club's Statement of Assets. Asset purchases during the year were supported by receipts. We have not attempted to verify the existence or value of the clubs non-cash assets so we are unable to express an opinion as to the list's accuracy or completeness beyond it being compatible with previous year and that the assets are being depreciated.

To the best of our knowledge the club has no significant liabilities outstanding as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

#### AUDIT OPINION

In my opinion, the financial statements comprising the attached Statement of Income and Expenditure and Statement of Assets of the South Coast Orchid Club of SA Incorporated presents fairly the financial position of the association as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 and the results of its operations for the period then ended.

Signed



Date 10/1/16

Ralph Assheton  
Senior Accountant  
Susan Nash & Associates

Susan Nash  
Fellow of NTAA  
Susan Nash & Associates

### THANK YOU TO BARBARA AND MAX ALMOND

Barbara and Max are retiring from their positions of Treasurer and Trading Table Co-ordinator. The Committee and Members would like extend our thanks and appreciation to Barbara for her untiring work as our Treasurer over the past years, a very considerable job taking into account our very large membership, various locations and diverse activities. Also to Max for his good work on the Trading Table. We understand that they want to travel a bit and to take things easy for a while. Good jobs well done both of you. All the best for the future.

# SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB

## Statement of Income and Expenditure

For The Year Ended December 31st 2016

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Balance at 1st January 2016	5,683.57		
Members Subscriptions	2,957.00	Australia Post Box	126.00
Raffle and Lucky Square	1,514.80	Hall Hire/ Storage	1,977.00
Social	1,805.00	Social	2,971.79
Trading Table	1,356.95	Trading Table	1,213.38
Donations	15.00	Donations	143.98
Bunnings BBQ	1,509.10	Bunnings BBQ	347.31
Floats	400.00	Floats	600.00
Autumn Show	6,140.25	Autumn Show	5,235.60
Winter Show	9,401.50	Winter Show	7,412.30
Victor Harbor Show	5,471.15	Victor Harbor Show	3,491.35
Name Badges	40.50	Trophies / Prizes	2,124.11
Bank Interest	6.45	Photocopying	1,267.96
SAROC	300.00	SAROC	29.30
Daytime Chapter	388.00	Transfer Term Deposit	361.42
Interest Term Deposit	361.42	Magazine	72.00
Southern Region	1,126.00	Orchid Whizz	614.93
Grant	1,720.00	Virus	222.00
Spring Show	9,538.95	Spring Show	7,376.87
Cash in hand	32.50	Gifts /Guest Speaker	619.80
		Name Badges	277.20
		Re-embursment	32.00
		Stationary	171.15
		Insurance	638.00
		Postage	1635.05
		Auditor	160.00
		Web Sight	219.45
		Equipment	1206.00
		Advertising	577.08
		Honorium	500
		Membership/Affiliation	195.00
		Computer Expenses	1,160.15
		<b>Surplus at 31st December</b>	<b>6,797.96</b>
	<u>\$49,768.14</u>		<u>\$49,768.14</u>

### Investment Account

Bank SA Term Deposit \$17,127.80  
 Invested at 2%  
 Mature on 29th April 2017

### Reconciliation

Balance as per Bank Statement \$6,894.38  
 Less Cheques not presented \$96.42  
\$6,797.96

### Floats

Treasurer \$50.00  
 Tdg. Table \$50.00

Barbara Almond  
 Treasurer

# December Results List

Ref. No.			Points Awarded
<b>Open Division</b>			
<b>Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid</b>			
807	Cym. Kuranda 'Arthur Dawson'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
808	Sarco. Elegance	Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	2
<b>Chin Yew Iian Trophy</b>			
819	Cym. Tennis	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
<b>Cymbidium under 60- any other colour</b>			
811	Cym. Cricket 'Maiden Over'	Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	3
812	Cym. Tennis	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
<b>Laeliinae - Non Standard</b>			
809	Blc. Mary Putman	Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	3
<b>Laeliinae - Species</b>			
810	Rl. digbyana	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
<b>Oncidiinae - Hybrid &lt; 60mm</b>			
814	Ons. Catatante 'Pumpkin Patch'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
<b>Oncidiinae - Hybrid &gt; 60mm</b>			
813	Onc. Charlesworthii 'Mishimai'	Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	2
<b>Oncidiinae - Species</b>			
815	Onc. leucochilum 'Seaview'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
<b>Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species</b>			
817	Pholidota chinensis	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
<b>Orchid Seedling - any Genera</b>			
818	Cym. Tennis	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
<b>Paphiopedilum - Non Standard</b>			
816	Paph. (Red Velvet x Double Arrow)	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
<b>First Division</b>			
<b>Australian Native Epiphyte - Species</b>			
797	Sarco. hartmannii ('Snow White' x 'Viv')	Shirley & Don Greig (1128)	2
<b>Laeliinae - Non Standard</b>			
798	Ctt. Jewel Box 'Sheherazade'	Paul & Donja Hayes (1129)	3
799	Rlc. Lim Theng Hin	Shirley & Don Greig (1128)	2
800	Ctt. Chit Chat 'Tangerine'	Shirley & Don Greig (1128)	1
<b>Laeliinae - Species</b>			
801	Psh.baculus	Paul & Donja Hayes (1129)	3
<b>Oncidiinae - Hybrid &gt; 60mm</b>			
802	Alcra. Diana Dunn	Paul & Donja Hayes (1129)	3
<b>Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid</b>			
803	Masd. Latacunga 'Morado Smooth'	Shirley & Don Greig (1128)	3
804	Masd. Red Hot Chili 'Macrun'	Shirley & Don Greig (1128)	2
<b>Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species</b>			
805	Lyc. aromatica	Paul & Donja Hayes (1129)	3
806	Max. mealeagris	Paul & Donja Hayes (1129)	2
<b>Second Division</b>			
<b>Laeliinae - Cluster</b>			
795	Ctt. Chit Chat 'Tangerine'	Phil and Anne Steer (514)	3
<b>Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species</b>			
796	Bif. harissoniae 'Anne'	Phil and Anne Steer (514)	3

## DECEMBER PLANT COMMENTARY

Christmas time is upon us and the usual lull in plant numbers was evident this month. We however enjoyed the Christmas feast and the company of our fellow members and the visit from Santa. Despite the numbers being down there were some very interesting plants on the bench.

### **Orchid of Open Division & Orchid of the night.**

The plant chosen by the Judges was a *Pholidata chinensis*. The plant was beautifully grown and had 4 lovely pendulous spikes, 2 of which had 13 flowers (fully open) and one with 15 flowers and one with 9 flowers. You had to look very closely at the flowers to appreciate them as they were small and delicate.



These plants original habitat is DaNang in Vietnam, the southern provinces of China & Hong Kong. The plants usually grow on damp rocks near streams in shade as well as open places. This orchid has received 7 awards.

The plant was growing very well in a mixture of minibark and perlite. Another fine exhibit from Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju. Well done.

I would like to express my thanks to all our Judges and those who assisted with pencilling, recording and maintaining the database, printing the monthly award cards etc throughout the year.

Good Growing and I look forward to working with you all in 2017!

*Phil Steen* Registrar

### Orchid of First Division

The plant of First Division grown by Paul & Donja Hayes was *Beallara* Diana Dunn. (the naming is now *Aliceara*). There were 2 inflorescences with 4 flowers & bud on each. The colour of the flowers was deep and intense. This plant is a rather complex cross between 3 Oncidinae genera, being *Brassia veracosa*, *Miltonia regnellii*, *Oncidium alexandrae* (as well as some other unknowns!). This was a small plant but really well grown. Well done Paul & Donja. We look forward to lots more of your beautiful plants next year.



### Orchid of Second Division

The Second Division Orchid, grown by Anne & Phil Steer was *Bifrenaria harrisoniae*. This plant had 3 spikes each with 2 cream flowers.

These plants originate from Brazil near Rio De Janeiro. The plants grow on almost vertical, east facing rock cliffs at 700-2600 ft (200-800 m), exposed to strong winds and almost full sun with their roots buried in cracks filled with detritus but little in the way of vegetable matter. (I am told that these plants tend to sulk when divided and repotted.)

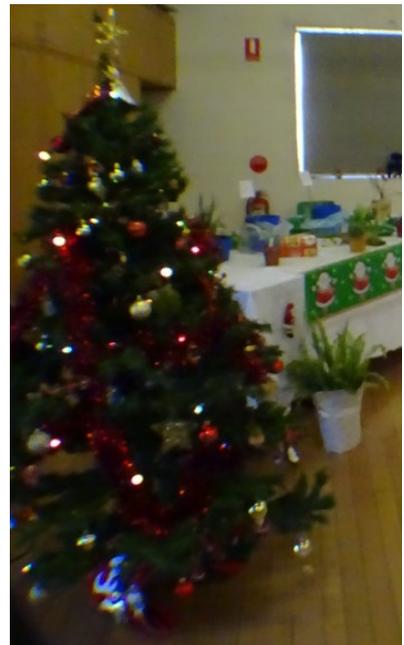


Photography by  
Craig Humfreys

Thank you  
Craig



**Christmas Meeting  
December 2016**



## DAYTIME CHAPTER

Hi Everyone,

Another top afternoon was had by all at our final Chapter for 2016. Our Christmas break afternoon tea (freast) was a culinary display of the Members all coming together to make it an excellent time of caring and sharing, the food table looked great a and a big thank you to you all.



Father Christmas arrived. He's always so bright and happy, sharing a few jokes and small gifts with a few members. Each year he singles out a few to do this. Everyone was happy and laughing so it was all worth the effort put in. Thank you Father Christmas, take care.

Our Guest Speaker was Noel Oliver all the way from Victor Harbor; Wednesday night for our main group then Thursday back again for our group. He's now a fixture, has been doing our group for many years. We all hope this will continue for a long time to come. With the name of Noel, who else is more qualified to do the Christmas Chapter.



Noel's talks are always very interesting with lots of examples of Australian natives on display. Noel answered many questions on growing, fertilising and habitat. Lots were mounted varieties, all looking very healthy and growing well. Everyone was very interested, so maybe a few more Native Orchid growers are in the making. Thank you Noel and Eileen for making the trip. See you again Sunday week at the Southern Region Meeting.

Noel also did the Plant Commentary. There were a nice lot of varied genera on display, all lovely to see. Thanks to all who brought in their plants. Thank you Noel for the great commentary. Lucy brought in a lovely pink *Sarcochilus* with red markings 'Watermelon x Super', with many spikes and flowers, nicely presented and well grown, Thank you Lucy well done.



Apologies today from Peter and Geraldine Flavel, Josephine, and Robert Gunn We wish you all well and hope to catch up again very soon.

Thanks also for all the help in cleaning up. Many hands certainly made it a lot quicker and easier. The meeting was closed, thanking all in attendance. Merry Christmas and a very Happy , Healthy and Safe New Year to you all. Enjoy the holidays.

Take care,  
Bye

*Dorothy*

8277 1793





**SOUTHERN REGION MEETING**  
**SUNDAY 18th DECEMBER**

Geoff Spear, Senior Vice President, opened the meeting at 2 pm. welcoming Members, Visitor, Diane, and Graham Zerbe, our Guest Speaker.

The planned BBQ for January will not be able to go ahead at the Main Group as the Hall is undergoing damage repairs and maintenance caused by the recent heavy rains.

**Apologies:** Kay and Steven Davey, Reg and Elsie Clifford, and Grace Noll.

**Lucky Name Badge:** Don Greig

**Guest Speaker:** Graham Zerbe. Thank you Graham for an interesting program and all the Christmas wishes.

**Judges:** Noel Oliver, Graham Zerbe, and John Gay

Father Christmas arrived with a funny joke and gifts for four members.

**Next Meeting:** Sunday 19th February 2017. Guest Speaker will be Graham Zerbe. This talk will be a must for new members and a great refresher course for all.

In closing the meeting, Senior Vice President Geoff Spear extended a very big **THANK YOU** to:

- John Gay who gives the best and most interesting information to members and the Beginner Group;
- Bev Gay, Sue Zerbe, and Lesley Fenton for their great help at meetings;
- Joan McMahon for running the Trading Table & organizing the Christmas Dinner;
- Judges Noel Oliver, Graham Zerbe and Rowan Crowhurst for their great contribution to the meetings;
- Graham Zerbe for his great photography;
- Dorothy Carassi who gives many precious Sundays to help Southern Region;
- Shirley and Don Greig, SCOCSA Committee Members who attend all the meetings at Carrickalinga House and are Jacks of All Trades; and
- Especially you the members. Without you we would not have any of the above jobs to do.

## SRG December Results List

Ref.No.

Points Awarded

### First Division

#### **Australian Native Epiphyte – Hybrid**

774 Cym. Kuranda

Eileen Pinnock

3

#### **Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere – Hybrid**

775 Phal. unknown

Shirley &amp; Don Greig

3

#### **Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - species**

776 Pholidota *chinensis*

Shirley &amp; Don Greig

3

777 Pleurothallis Unknown 'Straw Gold Flowers'

Shirley &amp; Don Greig

2

### SECOND DIVISION

#### **Australian Native Epiphyte – species**

764 Den. *canaliculatum* 'Alpha South'

Sid James

3

#### **Oncidiinae – Hybrid > 60 mm**

765 Onc. Unknown

Sid James

3

#### **Oncidiinae > 60 mm**

767 Brassia *verrucosa*

Sid James

3

768 Ons. Wildcat

Sid James

2

#### **Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere – Hybrid**

769 Phal. Unknown 'White Knight'

Joan McMahon

3

770 Den. Mingles 'Sapphire'

Sid James

2

771 Phal. Unknown 'Carousel'

Joan McMahon

1

#### **Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - species**

772 Max. *hematoglossa*

Sid James

3



## **Orchid Culture Notes for February**

It's the start of another year in the orchid house. This year we have been dealt with extreme weather ranging from a baking and orchid killing 44°C heat event to a tropical week of high humidity and 60mm of rain at my place in January. 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 rains and 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 thru OK, underneath things are not so good. Then sometime later the plant starts 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. I managed to collect some absolute orchid eating monsters during the rain. Slugzillas.

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 had learnt from previous heat events those plants that struggle and provided them 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, 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 use 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 foggers 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.

Seedlings and recently divided plants will stress more than established counterparts this time of year during heat spikes. They will need extra protection. Under the bench, in the house, the laundry, somewhere, anywhere it's cooler. The heat will pass. My laundry is out of bounds to washing when the heats on. Yep, full of orchids!

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.

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.

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 *Laelias*) 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 slimy 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 repotting. Still aim to keep them on the dry side after repotting as the disturbance of repotting 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.

Keep Paphiopedilums moist and keep an eye out of 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 manufacturers 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*



### **EDITORS NOTE:**

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.

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*Christine*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **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

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



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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.**