



# *The South Coast Orchid Club Inc. Gazette*

*November 1995*

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**NEXT MEETING:**

Tuesday 14th November 1995, Calvery Lutheran Church Hall, Windsong Crt, Morphett Vale. Benching of plants to be completed by 7-45 pm for judging.  
Meeting commences at 8pm.

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

Quarantine Office will send a representative to address the meeting, also a potting demonstration by at least 3 members.

**HALL SET-UP:**

Those willing to help please be at the Hall by 7.00pm.

**SUPPER:**

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided.

**DAYTIME CHAPTER:**

2pm. Thursday 16th November 1995 at South Brighton Community Hall, Dover Square Reserve, Broadway, South Brighton. Subject will be 'Time to be Potty, potting demonstrations by request'.

**NEWSFLASH:**

The 1995 Floral, art and craft Festival at Saint Augustine's Anglican Church is over for this year. Those of you who did not have the time to have a look missed out on a pretty impressive array of paintings, floral arrangements, demonstrations, glorious food and of course our orchids.

Thank you to members who helped by putting in plants and 'manning' the sales area.



## DAYTIME CHAPTER by Ruth Clark

In the welcome to members and the speaker for the afternoon, Gordon Brooks Keith Northcote was pleased to be able to give a special welcome back to John Illman after illness and to Betty Wyly.

Lloyd Cox had bought a hand-held spray which he has found to be very useful as it has a number of different settings, looks very neat and gives good results.

Gordon then spoke on Australian Native Cymbidiums -their culture and hybridisation. Until the early 50's culture of these natives was not very easy as they tended to be fussy about their environment and needed plenty of summer moisture and not so much during winter. It is very important to keep the roots healthy as new roots do not like to be near any rotten ones. Often in their natural habitat they were to be found growing on hollow tree logs lying on the ground. Old sewer pipes or tubes open to the soil can be quite acceptable as a substitute home. The growing medium in pots is rather important and pine bark with polystyrene foam and charcoal is a good mix.

*Cymbidium madidum* is the easiest of the natives to cultivate - has long spikes (pendulous or arching) with foliage above the spikes. Has a good shape, chartreuse colour flowers, keeps well and looks nice.

*Cymbidium canaliculatum* tends to stay a nice plant, yellow-green/wine flowers, heat tolerant, flowers keep well, blooms October/November. It has small foliage that is hard and rigid and its influence gives more flowers per spike - inflorescence arching or pendulous.

*Cymbidium suave* is a compact plant with long woody racemes; flower spike short and bunched.

Some promise has been seen with using the natives in hybridisation but there is still a long way to go.

Slides of Australia Native Cyms in their

natural habitat and of hybrids developed using them were shown and Gordon had bought plants to illustrate points in his talk and was able to use some of the benched cyms for this purpose also. He certainly knew his subject well and held the members attention.

From the variety of benched orchids Gordon's choice was,-

1. Cym Brown Eyes x Volcano K. Northcote
2. *Sarco. hartmannii* R. Moore
3. Z. Advance Australia R. Moore

Popular choice of members reversed 1 and 2 and chose *Sarco. Pinkheart* (R. Moore) in third position.

A pleasant afternoon was rounded off with a cuppa and chat and further inspection of plants.

## CHRISTMAS DINNER

The Christmas Luncheon will be at the Marion Hotel on November 26th at 12 for 12-30. Please pay at the November Meeting. (\$14 a head)

## THE GENUS COELOGYNE by David P. Banks

(David is one of the younger bright lights in Australian orchid growing. He is President of the Species Society (NSW), a past President of the Parramatta Orchid Society and an OSNSW and AOC accredited Judge.)

Coelogyne have never been a fashionable genus. Despite being easy to grow, their short-lived flowers have restricted this genus from being extensively cultivated. Even the hybridists have largely ignored them, as is emphasised by the extremely low number of registrations. Most growers have the odd basket of *Coelogyne cristata* or *flaccida* hanging at the back of their orchid houses (or under trees in the backyard), which no doubt are admired in early Spring when they smother themselves

in their fragrant flowers.

The term *Angel Orchid* has been used to describe a couple of the glistening white species, most notably *cristata*. However, as you will soon discover not all coelogyne have white flowers. Whilst about half a dozen species are commonly grown, many are a bit harder (but well worth the effort) to track down. Isn't that half the fun of growing orchids? There are many plants in cultivation with incorrect labels, and some well known names have been relegated to synonymy.

### HISTORY

The genus *Coelogyne* was founded by Englishman John Lindley (1799-1865) in 1821. He subsequently named a large catalogue of species. At one time he was assistant librarian to Sir Joseph Banks.

It is interesting to note that there is no designated type species for this genus, because a number of species were initially described on the same sheet. However, some texts claim that *Coelogyne punctulata* is the type species.

The name *Coelogyne* comes from the Greek *koilos* (hollow) and *gyne* (female), which probably refers to the deeply set stigmatic cavity found in members of the genus.

### DISTRIBUTION

*Coelogyne* is a large genus with around 140 species, many of which are unknown in cultivation. Being of Asian origin, species are found in Nepal and India east through to China and Malaysia (including Borneo), the Philippines, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and the Pacific Islands. Surprisingly, like the genus *Paphiopedilum*, there are no *Coelogyne* species indigenous to Australia, despite the close links with the floras of neighbouring countries.

Other genera related to *Coelogyne* include *Chelonistele*, *Dendrochilum*, *Panisea*, *Pholidota* and *Pleione*.

### CULTIVATION

Coelogyne are generally plants from

mountainous regions, and about 80% of the species are suitable for cultivation in cool to intermediate conditions. However, there are also species from the monsoonal lowlands. These can be grown outdoors in subtropical and tropical climates, but they require the luxury of a heated glasshouse (with a minimum of 12°C) in temperate areas.

I have found that most species do well in squat black plastic pots in a standard mix of 80% treated pine bark (medium grade), 10%, washed river gravel and 10% perlite. Smaller growing species prefer a finer mix, whilst larger growing species, such as *pandurata*, prefer a coarser medium. Some of the rambling species (such as *Coelogyne ovalis*) can alternatively be mounted on suitable hosts such as *Cyathea* tree fern, ironbark or hardwood.

Coelogyne come from areas which experience high humidity and unrestricted fresh air circulation. So don't place your plants in a stagnant corner. These epiphytes and lithophytes respond well to filtered light. Between 50% and 70% shade is ideal.

Keep the plants moist while they are growing and flowering. In fact I let the plants dry out only during winter, when most species are in a dormant state. A thorough watering every two weeks should suffice in winter. This dormancy helps to induce flowering and should be respected. *Coelogyne cristata* responds to being kept dry (and pretty cold) in winter by producing a 'snowstorm' of angelic white flowers in the early Spring. I have seen exceptional flowerings of this species in Tasmania and Southern Victoria.

I know there is always emphasis placed on the minimum winter temperatures, but I believe that keeping the plants cool in summer is just as important. Remember, in their native habitats the mountainous types will seldom experience

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MONTHLY FLORAL COMPETITION

FLOWERS OF THE MONTH- *Paphiopedilum tonsum* grown by Geoff Richardson  
and *Cymbidium Brown Eyes* x *Volcano* grown by Keith Northcote

SECOND DIVISION

Judges; J. Gay, H. Edwards

Aust. Nat. Epi: Species	<i>Den. kingianum</i>	D. & J. Higgs	3
	<i>Den. kingianum</i>	J. Kelly	2
Std. Cymbidium	Highland Mist	G. Shevlin	3
	Pink Comet	J. Dudley	2
	Narela	D. & J. Higgs	1
Inter. Cymbidium	Sylvia Miller	W. & R. Clark	3
Mini. Cymbidium	Peter Pan x Valya Craig	D. & I. Attenborough	3
	Akerono	J. Attenborough	2
	Sarah Jean	J. Kelly	1
Std. Cattleya	C. Margaret Degenhart	J. Dudley	3
	Lc. Drumbeat	J. Dudley	2
	Lc Drumbeat	D. & I. Attenborough	1
Nov. Cattleya	Blc. Horizon Flight	A. & V. Thompson	3
Nov. Cluster Cattleya	Lc. Adelaide Ablaze	A. & V. Thompson	3
	<b>Lc. Chocolate Treats</b>	A. & V. Thompson	2
Phalaenopsis	Dtps. Hybrid	P. & L. Fenton	3
Std. Paphiopedilum	Flastaff x Paeony	A. & V. Thompson	3
Nov. Paphiopedilum	Chouvetii	J. Attenborough	3
	Raisin Pie x Gloriosum	G. Richardson	2
	<i>venustum</i> x <i>holdenii</i>	J. Kelly	1
Species Paphiopedilum	<i>tonsum</i>	G. Richardson	3
	<i>tonsum</i>	G. Richardson	2
Species	<i>Bletilla striata</i>	D. & J. Higgs	3

FLOWER OF THE DIVISION: *Paph. tonsum* grown by Geoff Richardson

This terrestrial species is native to north and central Sumatra. According to Hennessy and Hedge in their book *The Slipper Orchids* this variable species is easy to cultivate in a light potting medium offering good drainage.

## FIRST DIVISION RESULTS

Judges ; R. Moore, B. Wylie

Aust.Nat.Epi: Species	<i>Den. linguiforme</i>	M. Cunningham	3
	<i>Den. linguiforme</i>	M. Cunningham	2
	<i>Den. kingianum</i>	M. Tiggeman	1
Aust.Nat.Terr:Species	<i>Ptst. biseta</i>	M. Tiggeman	3
Std. Cymbidium	Narella	J. Lewis	3
	Girrawheen	H.& B. Viney	2
	Arabella	M. Tiggeman	1
Inter.Cymbidium	Pelleas x Volcano	M. Tiggeman	3
	Michelle	M. Tiggeman	2
Mini.Cymbidium	Winton Queen	M. Tiggeman	3
	Bedivere	M. Tiggeman	2
Std. Cattleya	Blc. Sylvia Fry	C. Ameer	3
	Bc. Pastoral	C. Ameer	2
Nov. Cluster Cattleya	Lc. Trick or Treat	F. Bell	3
	Lc Adelaide Ablaze	H.& B. Viney	2
	<b>Lc Chocolate Treats</b>	J. Lewis	1
Nov. Cattleya	Bc. Maikai	F. Bell	3
	Blc. Golden Shrine	F. Bell	2
	Lc. Chine x Slc Kauai Starbright	M. Tiggeman	1
Cocktail Cattleya	Slc. Hazel Boyd 'Frae'	C. Ameer	3
	Slc. Hazel Boyd 'Apricot Glow'	C. Ameer	2
Dendrobium	Yukidaruma	M. Cunningham	3
	(Snowflake x Konan)x Otome x Merlin Flake	M. Cunningham	2
	Felicity Fortesque	J. Lewis	1
Miscellaneous	<i>Rhy. retusa x Ren. monachica</i>	C. Ameer	3
Std. Paphiopedilum	<b>Irish Spring</b>	J. Lewis	3
Nov. Paphiopedilum	Leeanum	J. Lewis	3
	<i>niveum x papuanum</i>	R. Parish	2
	<i>haynaldianum x chamberlainianum</i>	J. Lewis	1
Species Paphiopedilum	<i>hainanensis</i>	R. & I. Parish	3
	<i>barbatum</i>	R. & I. Parish	2
	<i>barbatum</i>	R. & I. Parish	1
Species	<i>Enc. cochleata</i>	J. Lewis	3
	<i>Cym. lowianum</i>	M. Tiggeman	2
	<i>Cym. lowianum</i>	M. Tiggeman	1

FLOWER OF THE DIVISION : *Den. linguiforme* grown by Michael Cunningham

## OPEN DIVISION RESULTS

Judges: K. Northcote, G. Brooks

Aust. Nat. Epi: Species	<i>Sarco hartmannii</i>	R. Moore	3
	<i>Den. linguiforme</i>	D. Biebrick	2
	<i>Den. linguiforme</i>	D. Biebrick	1
Aust. Nat. Epi: Hybrid	Sarco. Southern Cross	K. Northcote	3
	Prcls. Perky	B. Wyly	2
	Sarco. Verolica	R. Moore	1
Aust. Nat. Terr: Species	<i>Diuris punctata</i>	R. & B. Anderson	3
	<i>Diuris sulphurea</i>	B. Wyly	2
	<i>Caladenia dilatata</i>	R. & B. Anderson	1
Inter. Cymbidium	Brown Eyes x Volcano	K. Northcote	3
	Chenara 'Cologne'	H. Gerber	2
	Peepers	H. Gerber	1
Mini. Cymbidium	Sarah Jean 'Ice Cascade'	H. Gerber	3
	Chenara 'Elaine'	H. Gerber	2
Std. Cattleya	Blc. Malworth	R. & B. Anderson	3
	C. Ruth Gee	R. & B. Anderson	2
Nov. Cattleya	Lc. Golden Girl	T. DeIonno	3
Nov. Cluster Cattleya	Lc. Trick or Treat	B. Wyly	3
	Lc. Chicanery x <i>L. milleri</i>	B. Wyly	2
	Lc. Tiny Trick	R. & B. Anderson	1
Other Laeliinae	Dial. Controversy	B. Wyly	3
	Dial. Fair Jewel	B. Wyly	2
Dendrobium	Eleebana x <i>discolor</i>	B. Wyly	3
Miscellaneous	Lyc. Shoalhaven	Mr & Mrs W. Nicholls	3
	Epidendrum	D. Biebrick	2
Phalaenopsis	Little Mary	C. & H. Edwards	3
	Little Mary	C. & H. Edwards	2
Std. Paphiopedilum	Loganna x Lyric	D. Biebrick	3
	Loganna x Hang Glider	D. Biebrick	2
	Paeony x Golden Chalice	D. Biebrick	1
Nov. Paphiopedilum	Herbert Fouraker	D. Biebrick	3
	<i>boxallii</i> x Radiant Tiger	D. Biebrick	2

Species Paphiopedilum	<i>venustum</i>	R. Moore	3
	<i>venustum</i>	D. Biebrick	2
Odont/Oncidium Alliance	McIna Pagan Love Song	R. Moore	3
	Hwra. Mary Eliza	B. Wyly	2
Species	<i>Phal. amabilis</i>	C. & H. Edwards	3
	<i>C. skinneri</i>	C. & H. Edwards	2
Vandaceous	Vanda. T.M.A	R. & B. Anderson	3
	V. Woodlawn Glory x Teoh Chee Keat.	R. & B. Anderson	2
	Asda. Medasand x V. Manuel Torres	R. & B. Anderson	1
Zygopetalum	Advance Australia	R. Moore	3
	Advance Australia	R. Moore	2

FLOWER OF THE DIVISION: Cym. Brown Eyes x Volcano grown by Keith Northcote

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temperatures over 26oC. A quick misting late in the day during summer will certainly be appreciated.

#### SELECTION OF SPECIES IN CULTIVATION

*Coelogyne asperata* -warm conditions required-creamy, fragrant flowers.

*Coelogyne bilamellata* -intermediate growing species-small cream to caramel flowers.

*Coelogyne brachyptera* -intermediate conditions-creamy green flowers.

*Coelogyne confusa* -intermediate to warm conditions- green flowers.

*Coelogyne cristata*- cool growing -white fragrant flowers.

*Coelogyne cumingii* -intermediate grower-fragrant white flowers.

*Coelogyne flaccida* -cool growing-creamy flowers.

*Coelogyne mooreana* - cool growing species-large glistening white flowers.

*Coelogyne speciosa* - usually intermediate culture- brownish flowers on short pendulous inflorescences. Can flower from Spring through to late Autumn.

(Cool Growing -winter minimum 4oC, cool in summer.

Intermediate Growing -winter minimum 8oC but can take cooler conditions for short periods.

Warm Growing -winter minimum 14oC, can withstand high temperatures as long as the relative humidity is high.)

#### HYBRIDS

Despite its obvious horticultural appeal, little hybridising has been done with this genus. Just over a dozen hybrids have been registered to date.

#### PESTS AND DISEASES

With proper hygiene coelogyne are generally free of pests and diseases.

#### PROPAGATION

Seedlings are surprisingly scarce, and therefore most coelogyne are propagated by division of clumps in Spring.

Most species look best when grown as specimen plants in hanging baskets. Suitable plants include *Coelogyne cristata*, *dayana*, *fimbriata*, *flaccida*, *lactea*, *ovalis*, *speciosa*, *tomentosa* and the hybrid Unchained Melody.

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The Fern Society of South Australia Show will be on 4th and 5th November at St. Peters Town Hall. There will be ferns for sale and demonstrations.