



# *The South Coast Orchid Club Inc. Gazette*

*October 1995*

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**NEXT MEETING :**

Tuesday 10th October 1995, Calvery Lutheran Church Hall, Windsong Crt, Christie Downs. Benching of plants to be completed by 7-45pm for judging. Meeting commences at 8-00pm.

**GUEST SPEAKER :**

Mr John Gay will tell us about the beautiful Phalaenopsis Orchids.

**HALL SET-UP :**

Would all willing to assist please arrive by 7pm.

**SUPPER :**

The Club will provide tea, coffee, cordial and biscuits.

**DAYTIME CHAPTER :**

2pm. Thursday 12th October 1995 at South Brighton Community Hall, Dover Square Reserve, Broadway, South Brighton: Gordon Brooks will discuss the Australian Native Cymbidium Orchids, their culture and their influence in hybridising with other Cymbidiums.

**St. AUGUSTINE'S:**

'Put in' day for the Flower, Art & Craft Festival at St. Augustine's Church, Unley Road, Unley, is on Saturday 14th October after 12-30pm. Plants for display and sale will be accepted at this time. Take out is after 9pm Thursday or Friday morning. The Festival is open to the public 10 - 5 daily.

**THE CHAMPIONS of the  
SPRING SHOW:**

Grand Champion - Milt. Limelight 'Imagene Smith' grown by Rosemary and Moss Bray.

Reserve Champion - Cattleya Dundas 'Tom's Pride' grown by Beryl and Richard Wilson.

President's Prize was won by Ruth and Bill Clark.

## THE GENUS PHALAEENOPSIS

(by Maurie Black, a well known, respected member of the Melbourne orchid scene, from a lecture presented at Orchids by the Sea, April 1995.)

Having established that *Cymbidiums* rule the roost here and that *Phalaenopsis* have cornered the world scene we will confine our remarks to *Phalaenopsis*. (In Sanders Lists of Orchid Hybrids 1985 - 1990, no less than 279 pages of *Phalaenopsis* hybrids are listed and they are only the intra-generics. There are 86 pages of *Dendrobiums*, 75 of *Paphiopedilums* and only 63 pages of *Cymbidiums*.) There is a wide range of colours in the *Phalaenopsis*, from white to yellow to red, to orange to candy stripe- a veritable kaleidoscope! Size of blooms is wide-ranging too, from about an inch to an amazing 7 inch. Not that there are many 7 inch flowers around, the hybridiser merely proved a point. The market wanted nothing over about 4 to 4.5 inches, although showbench exhibitors like blooms up to 5.5 inches.

**General.** Basically, *Phalaenopsis* are tropical epiphytes, happy in a high humidity, stable temperature environment of around 20 - 25oC. That's what they like but happily they will settle for less. They will do O.K. from 15 - 30oC, if you compensate with adequate air movement and misting in hot weather, and avoiding those sudden temperature variations responsible for bud blast.

**Watering.** *Phalaenopsis* do well in 1/2 to 3/4 inch bark, which provides almost perfect drainage, so is virtually impossible to overwater in summer. With artificial heating in winter, atmospheric humidity in the growing area can be dissipated, because an artificially heated glasshouse has a micro-climate of its own. So, watering every second day in winter should be satisfactory, in an effort to maintain a minimum of 60% relative humidity year round. Consistently higher figures will inevitably result in Botrytis spotting, especially in the whites and pinks.

Note: In the wild *Phalaenopsis* plants hang down. Not struck upright in a pot. So in the wild one of our growing problems does not occur - water lodging in the crown causing rot.

**Light.** *Phalaenopsis* prefer slightly more shade than the usual 50% accorded to *Cymbidiums*, something nearer 60%.

**Ventilation.** Constant air movement keeps them happy. If the flower spikes gently wave you've got it about right.

**Humidity.** Aim for around 60% up to 80% relative humidity.

## DISAS AND THEIR CULTIVATION

(from August Daytime meeting)

Kevin Western told of a near disaster with his first seedlings in the early eighties but his interest had not developed until about 4 years ago.

Disas originate from South Africa, Mascarene Island, and Madagascar where, as a terrestrial



orchid, the majority grow in cool mountainous regions varying from damp to saturated though air temperature can reach 40oC on occasions in summer. (A minority grow along the coast in dry open grassland). There are at least 120 *Disa* species but only six have been used in hybridising- *Disa uniflora* (the floral emblem of South Africa) is used most extensively being the most showy and the largest.

Although over 135 hybrids have been registered to date, more than 100 of these have been since 1980.

In cultivation *Disas* must have free air movement at all times and require at least as much light as *Cymbidiums*. Best housing for the plants is a shadehouse with clear synthetic roof (to protect from cold and rain which tend to mark leaves), open sides and 30%-50% shade in winter and 50%-70% in summer. A good medium, in pots standing in water so they never dry out, is spagnum moss with only very low strength fertilizer used every two-four weeks. Flowering from mid-spring to early autumn *Disas* make ideal pot plants and are very welcome over the Christmas season. In Autumn flowered plants die back and a new tuber and shoot will appear. When this is well-developed it is time to repot and discard the parent plant.

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**Temperature.** On those really hot days in summer my greenhouse is the coolest part of the orchid accommodation, cooler than the cymbidium growing area, which merely has shadecloth to protect it. To maintain a maximum of 30°C, I have an exhaust fan, set high in the end wall, operating on a thermostat. Yes, this sure helps, but it has a drawback. It certainly sucks out the hot air, but it takes the humidity with it. Which means that I have to have the misting come on several times a day to compensate. This misting cools the whole house, but evaporation from the foliage cools the plants down, which is wholly desirable. My 2 glasshouses are constructed from cored plastic sheet - polycarbonate, a wonderful insulator in its own right. Leaves can be in actual contact with the cladding and never run the risk of getting burned. This material also has a beneficial effect on light, diffusing it so that leaf scorch is not a problem

**Fertilising.** My best results in the past were obtained when the plants were fertilised only about 3 times

a year, based on an assessment of just how much fertiliser would a plant get stuck up in a tree? Of course, if you feel energetic and want to feed every day, be my guest. But remember, the more often you do it, the weaker the fertiliser solution must be.

**Diseases.** Phalaenopsis are subject to a few problems, mainly insects such as scale and mealy bug, which I have found can be controlled by an over-the-top light spray of Lebaycid at 10ml per litre. This is a systemic and not a contact poison, so it is neither necessary nor advisable to get it into the pot to be taken up by the roots. A follow-up treatment a fortnight later is advisable. The worst actual disease would have to be *Pseudomonas*, which first appears as dark wet spots on the leaves and travels with remarkable speed. Rely on the old Bordeaux mixture. Just a quick fine spray OVER THE TOP, so that a little runs into the crown then STOP. Bordeaux mixture is copper-based and it does not take much copper to kill an orchids. Use the barest minimum.



## PICNIC

All SCOC members are invited by OCSA to a picnic to be held at Fort Largs Police Academy on Sunday 19th November at 12noon. OCSA arranges, at no cost to our members, the food catering for this day. Members would be required to take their own chairs, tables, drinks, plates, cutlery etc. Please advise Helen, Phil or Harry at the next meeting if you wish to attend.



## SEPTEMBER MEETING

*Helen Edwards*

At the September Cultural Meeting Philip Smoult from Smoults Mobile Horticultural Suppliers addressed the



meeting and showed items they have for sale. After being to the 'unmobile' part of the business this morning I can tell you that there is money to be saved from supporting this business. For example : 1 litre of NoGrow = \$28, marking pencils (if a box of 12 is bought)=\$1 each, rose de-thorners = \$2-50, a soft nozzle to go on the end of a watering wand = \$6, other goods that caught my eye and you might find interesting : greenhouse films - 150micron thick polythene, triple layer co-extruded for extra strength, U.V stabilised, heat 'n' Grow Propagation Systems for those who want to have bottom heat for the plants just out of flask, Fongarid the systemic fungicide, and an idea for the adventurous types: Oasis as a growing media. I've only mentioned a few items that are available but I thought the visit well worthwhile. Of course various florists supplies are also for sale at reasonable prices. For anyone wishing to get in touch with Smoult's the phone number is 018 844802.



# 15TH WORLD ORCHID CONFERENCE

The 15th World Orchid Conference will be held in Rio de Janeiro in September 1995. The Australian Orchid Council Inc. in conjunction with Travelmaster are organizing an Official A.O.C. Group Tour. See the best of South America including Iguassu Falls, orchids in the rain forest, Machu Picchu Inca ruins, stopover in Orchid nurseries and see the Tour Prices start at \$2650. For Gallagher, PO Box 11, 3373112 or Travel Master



Los Angeles and Honolulu to visit Maui Orchid Society Annual Show. further details please contact Don Highbury, South Australia 5089, phone 2325977.

## THANK YOU

*Helen Edwards*

Thank you to all that helped at the Shows this year: the set-up people who must have been up bright and early, the Devonshire Tea servers and providers under the leadership of Peg, the door keepers, raffle sellers, and floor walkers, donators of raffle prizes, the people who 'manned' the trading tables (some all weekend), the cleaner-uppers and the Show Marshall twins Bill and Moss (not Ben).

Also thanks to all that made judging on Friday night such a smooth operation. Included in this are the typists, runners, scribes, judges, etc and of course Registrar.

Thank you to members who gave flowers to go to Townsville. With the generous assistance of OCSA members, and the beautiful bunch of cymbidiums I had delivered to my door by a certain Doctor first thing Wednesday morning, I was able to send off 5 boxes.

Thanks also to the Townsville people who sent us the beautiful *dendrobiums*, *vandas* etc for our Winter Show.

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Christmas lunch this year will be held at the Marion Hotel on November the 26th November at 12noon for 12-30. \$5 deposit is required at the October meetings.

## ORANA

Orana Auxiliary invite you to a Fashion Parade by Bus Boutique on Wednesday 11th October at 10-30am. Venue: Amaroo Hostel, 11 Mills St, Clarence Pk. Trading Tables and Raffle. Cost: \$6 includes Buffet Lunch.

## SEPTEMBER DAYTIME CHAPTER

*Ruth & Bill Clark*

Australian native orchids were predominant on the bench at the September meeting of the afternoon chapter. Keith Northcote welcomed all, with a special welcome to our new member Les Munt, before speaking of Australian *Dendrobiums* - in particular the hot/cold mix of these. Along the coastal belt of eastern Australia there are 48 species in Queensland, 18 in NSW, 2 in Victoria and 1 in Tasmania. 40 of these like the warmer climes. There are also natural hybrids. Keith then showed slides from John Woolf of Florafest in Toowoomba of hybrids he has produced, a number of which are spectacular in colour and/or form.

Features of hot growers are - longevity of blooms, longer racemes, larger blooms, longer flowering periods and different colours while the cool growers have multiple growth habit, shorter more compact growth, intensity of flower colour, multiple spiking and, of course, tolerance to cool temperatures. The hybridists aim from the hot/cold mix is to combine the best of these features.

From the orchids on display Keith chose a spectacular pot of the primary hybrid *Dendrobium Bardo Rose 'Maisie'* (Don Simmons), while the members put this equal with a lovely *Cymbidium Sarah Jean 'Ice Cascade'* (Keith Northcote) followed by *Phalaenopsis Running Water* (Keith Northcote) and a *Lemboglossum bictoniense* hybrid (Helen Edwards).

The afternoon concluded with a chat and cuppa. (John Woolf will be a speaker at the Australian Native Orchid Conference to be held in Adelaide in September 1996. Ed)

## GARDEN DAY

You are invited to a Garden Day to be held in the garden of Don & Jane Higgs on Friday 20th October at 1-30 October. Cost \$2-50

## SPRING SHOW 1995 - CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

<b>GRAND CHAMPION</b>	Milt.Limelight	M. & R. Bray
<b>RESERVE CHAMPION</b>	Blc. Dundas	R. & B. Wilson
Champion Open Division	Milt.Limelight	M. & R. Bray
Champion First Division	Blc.Dundas	R. & B.Wilson
Champion Second Division	<i>Den.kingianum</i>	B. Fisher
Champion Standard Cymbidium	John Jansma	E. & J. Cuming
Champion Intermediate Cymbidium	Mary Pinchess x Red Beauty	E. & J. Cuming
Champion Miniature Cymbidium	Mini Mint	E. & H. van Leuveren
Champion Paphiopedilum	<i>acmodontum x wolterianum</i>	P. & G. Flavel
Champion Odont/Oncidium	Miltonia Limelight	M. & R. Bray
Champion Phalaenopsis	Jill St. John	M. & R. Bray
Champion Cattleya	Blc. Dundas	R. & B. Wilson
Champion Dendrobium	Yodogimi	D. & J. Higgs
Champion Australian Native	Den. Graham Hewitt	E. & J. Cuming
Champion Genera Not Yet Listed	Rhrds. Gaye Misemer	P. O'Brien
Champion Species	<i>Angraecum eburneum</i>	C. & H. Edwards
Champion Seedling	Cym. Chocolada x Sensation	G. Brooks
Champion Zygopetalum	Titanic x Helen-Ku	B. Fisher

## MONTHLY FLORAL COMPETITION RESULTS

### SECOND DIVISION

**Judges: G. Brooks  
M. Bray**

Aust.Nat.Epi:Species	<i>Den. speciosum</i>	D.J. & B.J. Higgs	3
	<i>Den. kingianum</i>	B. Fisher	2
	<i>Den. gracilicaule</i>	R. Way	1
Aust.Nat.Epi:Hybrid	<i>Den. tetragonum</i> x Star of Gold	B. Fisher	3
	<i>Den. speciosum</i> x Aussie Mist	B. Fisher	2
	Bardo Rose	R. Way	1
Std. Cymbidium	Bud March 'Rosetta'	D. & I. Attenborough	3
Inter. Cymbidium	Alison Shaw 'Valentine'	G. Shevlin	3
	Ivy Fung 'Cossack'	D. & I. Attenborough	2
	Golden Hind 'Sweetmeat Elegance'	W. & R. Clark	1
Mini. Cymbidium	<i>pumilum</i> x Primula 'Elfin Green'	J. Dudley	3
	Snow Petersen 'Happy'	G. Shevlin	2
	Tommy Amy	D.J. & B.J. Higgs	1
Other Laeliinae	Pot. Amangi 'Orchidglade'	J. Dudley	3
Std. Paphiopedilum	Redstart x W.N. Evans	R. Way	3
Zygopetalum	Redvale 'Reynella'	B. Fisher	3

### FLOWER OF THE DIVISION:

***DENDROBIUM speciosum* grown by DON & JANE HIGGS**

**OPEN DIVISION**

**Judge:**

**K. Northcote  
B. Wyly**

Aust.Nat.Epi:Species	<i>Den. speciosum</i>	D. Biebrick	3
	<i>Den. speciosum</i>	G. Brooks	2
	<i>Den. taberi</i>	G. Brooks	1
Aust.Nat.Epi:Hybrid	Den Bardo Rose	D. Biebrick	3
	Den. Yondi x Aussie Ecrú	D. Biebrick	2
	Den. Bardo Rose	D. Biebrick	1
Aust.Nat.Terr:Species	<i>Diuris corybosa</i>	R. & B. Anderson	3
	<i>Diuris laxiflora</i>	P. & G. Flavel	2
Aust.Nat.Terr:Hybrid	Ptst. Cutie	P. & G. Flavel	3
	Ptst. Joseph Arthur	P. & G. Flavel	2
	Ptst. Joseph Arthur	?	1
Std. Cymbidium	Valley Radiance	M. Bray	3
	Loch Lomond x Mem. J.O.Russon	M. Bray	2
	Unknown Yellow	P. & G. Flavel	1
Inter. Cymbidium	Trio Guare 'Kokoda'	H. Gerber	3
	Trio Guare 'Peace'	H. Gerber	2
	Trio Guare 'Nina'	H. Gerber	1
Mini. Cymbidium	Sarah Jean 'Green Cascade'	H. Gerber	3
Std. Cattleya	Pot. Lemon Tree	R. & B. Anderson	3
Nov. Cattleya	Blc. Orange Show	T. DeIonno	3
Miscellaneous	Pleione Hazeldene	R. & B. Anderson	3
	Pleione Noojee	P. & G. Flavel	2
Phalaenopsis	Hermosa x Helengene x Harkalu	M. Bray	3
	Abendrot x Zauberose	M. Bray	2
	Mark Chagall x (Drizaba x Asparas)	M. Bray	1
Std. Paphiopedilum	Spotted Leopard x Laelia Emami	D. Biebrick	3
	Loganna Carlingford x HangGlider	D. Biebrick	2
	Keelat x Winston Churchill	D. Biebrick	1
Nov. Paphiopedilum	Lutanist x <i>fairrianum</i>	D. Biebrick	3
	Fairiechant	D. Biebrick	2
	Fairie Maud	D. Biebrick	1
Species Paphiopedilum	<i>sukhakulii</i>	D. Biebrick	3
Vandaceous	Vanda T.M.A.	R. & B. Anderson	3
	Vanda Woodlawn Glory x Tech Chee Keat	R. & B. Anderson	2
Zygopetalum	Advance Australia	R. Moore	3

**FLOWER OF THE DIVISION:**

***DENDROBIUM speciosum* grown by DON BIEBRICK**

**FIRST DIVISION****Judges:****H. Pankoke  
R. Moore**

Aust.Nat.Epi:Species	<i>Den. speciosum</i>	M. Tiggeman	3	
	<i>Den. aemulum</i>	H. Pankoke	2	
	<i>Den. linguiforme</i>	J. Lewis	1	
Aust.Nat.Epi:Hybrid	Den. Bardo Rose	M. Cunningham	3	
	Den. Delicatum	M. Cunningham	2	
	Den. Delicatum	M. Cunningham	1	
Aust.Nat.Terr:Species	<i>Ptst. curta</i>	M. Tiggeman	3	
	<i>Diuris corymbosa</i>	M. Tiggeman	2	
	<i>Ptst. bisecta</i>	M. Tiggeman	1	
Aust.Nat. Terr:Hybrid	Ptst. Bantam	M. Tiggeman	3	
	Std. Cymbidium	Winter Wonder	J. Lewis	3
	Wallara Gold x Zuma Boyd	H.& B. Viney	2	
Inter. Cymbidium	Baltic x Babylon 'Castle Hill'	M. Cunningham	1	
	Pelleas x Volcano	M. Tiggeman	3	
	Ann Miller 'Midnight'	J. Lewis	2	
Mini. Cymbidium	Showgirl 'Marion Miller'	M. Cunningham	3	
	Bedivere 'Highbury'	H.& B. Viney	3	
	Nancy Maxwell 'Shirley'	M. Tiggeman	2	
Std. Cattleya	Alice Williams 'Camden'	M. Tiggeman	1	
	Blc. Dundas	R.& B. Wilson	3	
	Lc. Peggy Huffman x Meditation	C. Ameer	2	
Nov. Cluster Cattleya	C. Lulu x C. Chocolate Drop	R. & B. Wilson	3	
	C. Chocolate Drop x Trick or Treat	J. Lewis	2	
	C. Chocolate Drop x Trick or Treat	F. Bell	1	
Nov. Cattleya	C. Little Bit x Blc Tickled Pink	H. Pankoke	3	
	Slc Madge Fordyce x Blc Bouton D'or	R.& B. Wilson	2	
	Slc. Hazel Boyd 'Sunset'	C. Ameer	1	
Dendrobium	Bangkok Flare	C. Ameer	3	
	Yukidarum King	M. Cunningham	2	
	(Snowflake x Konan)x Otome x Merlin	M. Cunningham	1	
Std. Paphiopedilum	Sheila Hanes x Bit-O-Sunshine	J. Lewis	3	
	Belinda x Amanda	R.& I. Parish	2	
	Mandy-Lu x Cubby Broccoli	J. Lewis	1	
Nov. Paphiopedilum	Leeanum	J. Lewis	3	
	<i>haynaldianum</i> x <i>chamberlainum</i>	J. Lewis	2	
	Species Paphiopedilum	<i>moquetteanum</i>	R.& I. Parish	3
Odont/Oncidium Alliance	<i>hainanensis</i>	R.& I. Parish	2	
	<i>insigne</i>	J. Lewis	1	
	Wils. Shirley Monkhouse	J. Lewis	3	
Species	McLna Pagan LoveSong	J. Lewis	2	
	<i>C. maxima</i>	R.& B. Wilson	3	
	<i>Enc. cochleata</i>	J. Lewis	2	
Zygopetalum	<i>Odm. pulchellum</i>	M. Tiggeman	1	
	<i>mackayii</i>	M. Tiggeman	3	

**FLOWER OF THE DIVISION:****BLC. DUNDAS grown by RICHARD & BERYL WILSON**