



# THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB

Affiliated with the Orchid Club of South Australia Inc. and with The Australian Orchid Council

Patron: Sir Francis Matters

MONTHLY NEWS SHEET

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## HURRAH! The oil heater in the hall is working!

Our next Club meeting will be on Tuesday, 14th September, at 8 p.m. at the Morphett Vale RSL Hall and will be entirely a 'CYMBIDIUM NIGHT'. Since the oil heater is now working it will probably be a warm evening!

**SHOW DATES:** 20th–25th September, South Australian Spring Orchid Festival at John Martin's. Staging of plants—19th Sept.  
30th September, 1st and 2nd October—South Coast Club Display at the Christies Beach Hotel (Staging—29th)  
9th–15th October—Australian Orchid Conference, Melbourne  
12th October—South Coast Orchid Club's Spring Festival Display at the Morphett Vale Hall (Meeting Night)

Because it was not realised at the time of making the first booking at the Warradale Hotel that the 9th October is the beginning of the Australian Orchid Conference in Melbourne the date for our Annual Dinner at the Warradale Hotel is now: **SATURDAY, 23rd OCTOBER**. Cost of \$3.50 per head includes a 5 course meal, floor show, dance band and our company. Please advise the Treasurer (Don Deal), or any member of the Committee, as soon as possible but at the latest by the next meeting as to the number in your party.

Not many members braved the blistery weather at the last meeting—and I can assure you—you missed a really wonderful, very interesting meeting in a heated hall. Thank you, Neil Christoph, for braving this shocking weather, we enjoyed your talk and your company very much, and hope to see you again soon.

Neil Christoph, a past-president of the Orchid Club of South Australia, and an acknowledged orchid judged, also honoured us by judging the plants tabled: **NOVICE SECTION**—Cymbidium Fred Stewart x Sirius 'White' (R. Styles), 3 points; Cym. Lillian x Stanley Fouraker (R. Styles), 2 points; Cymbidium (name unknown, grower D. Lang), 1 point; Paphiopedilum Sanacen (L. J. Carr), 3 points; Australian Native Dendrobium *aemulum* (P. Speer), 3 points. **OPEN SECTION**—Cym. Babylon 'Castle Hill' x Stanley Fouraker (B. Hansen), 3 points; Cym. Emmeline 'Evangel x Early Bird 'Pacific' (B. Hansen), 2 points; Min. Cym. Viriscens x pumilum album (J. Hofner), 1 point; Cattleya Bob Betts 'Belvedere' x C. Supreme 'Alpha' (J. Hofner), 3 points; Paphiopedilum F. C. Puddle (G. Harvey), 3 points; Paph. Brita v. Rotunda (G. Harvey), 2 points; Species: Pleurothallis 'longissima' (G. Adams), 3 points; Phalaenopsis P. Kathleen (3 points), Phal. Allismere Rose x Judith (2 points) and Phal. Raycraft x Anne Lovell (1 point)—all Phalaenopses grown by Merv Dunn.

**SUBSCRIBING TO AUSTRALIAN ORCHID REVIEW** (published in Sydney at a quarterly basis). We have been approached by Shepherd & Newman Pty Ltd (the Printers and Distributors) with the offer of a 10% commission to the Club, if our Club collects the subscriptions to the above Review from all our subscribing Club members and forwards the total amount, thus eliminating extra handling costs for individual subscriptions. The cost to you, the subscriber, will not alter in any way, e.g. 12 months—\$2, 24 months—\$4, 36 months—\$6, 48 months—\$8, 60 months—\$10, four editions per year, and the issues will still be posted directly to you. In order to procure the 10% commission for our Club Peter Summers, our Secretary, has volunteered!!! to take on the additional duty, and will also, from now on have a supply of Subscription Application Forms in hand at the monthly meetings. We will only receive the 10% commission if your Application Form and monies are forwarded through the Club.

## CULTURAL NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER – by Bernie Hansen

Well, 'spring' is here and 'battle scars' can now be found on Cymbidium flowers such as small clear spots which have either been caused by 'botrytis', an air-borne fungus disease, or Red Spider bites while the buds were in their early development stage, plus a host of other chewing 'wogs' spots. For the good-clean-expert? or should we say lucky growers, clean, clear, healthy flowers will be your reward. Remember when judges are choosing winning plants at shows, they must be perfectly clean. And with our September meeting coming up and the Orchid Club of S.A. Spring Festival, in which our club will be putting in a competitive display and who knows some of us may even take away some of the prize money, it will be to our advantage to keep the flowers clean. Leaves can be tied together in a bundle to keep them away from the flowers. Put a fresh sprinkling of your favourite snail bait around the top of the compost and spread a little around the flowering area. Arching spikes which have a lot of flowers can be transported much safer with an added stake at an angle to help with the support. Upright spikes can have an extra twistie to hold it to the stake for transport, but remember any plant being judged cannot be tied to a stake above the bottom flower, so remember to remove any stabilising stakes or twisties once they are in place at the Show.

Any member of the South Coast Orchid Club, whether or not he or she is a member of the Orchid Club of S.A. is eligible to compete for any of the prizes on the major local show schedule. Application forms for entering the plants for competition can be obtained at the Festival Hall in John Martin's on Sunday, 29th September, which is 'putting in Display day'.

Australian native Dendrobiums, etc., are all showing good bud activity, so we should see a good display in September. Paphiopedilums are getting near the end of their season and only the late flowerers are still to come. Soft cane Dendrobium spikes are also showing activity, these should be fat this time of the year, in a glasshouse or sun-room to help push them along so as they also will be flowering for the Spring Show. Miniature Cymbidiums are now coming into full flower and we should see an ever increasing number during the months of August and September.

September can be a deceptive month as far as watering goes. Outside, three or four warm days can dry the plants out. Repotting: Potting on and dividing can now be started on the plants that did not flower. This will give them an early start for the ensuing season. For those who use a mix that does not need composting such as peat-moss, isolite and rice husks, etc., last minute mixing or purchasing can be made. If you use a compost with a humus base then you should have had all the ingredients down by now and nearly ready for use, otherwise too late a potting programme can upset the following year's flowering (so we are told by the experts). By the way:

the definition of an expert is— ( 'X' = an unknown quantity )  
( 'purt' = a drip under pressure )