# THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB GAZETTE

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# MONTHLY MEETING

Our next Monthly Meeting will be held at the LUTHERAN CHURCH HALL, Windsong Court, CHRISTIES DOWNS on TUESDAY 12 OCTOBER at 8 pm.

PROGRAMME: - Potting demonstrations.

### SPRING SHOW

Volunteers will be preparing the areas on the Friday night 1 October and this will enable members to commence setting up as from 12 oclock on the Saturday. Open Division lower level, 1st and 2nd Divisions upper level with entrance at respective levels. Judging on Sunday morning with opening on SUNDAY at 3 P M by the Deputy Mayor of Noarlunga. Bark, hessian will be available to assist members to finish their exhibit. Composite displays will be in two areas - one for 1st Division and one for 2nd Division.

# CHRISTMAS DINNER - ARE YOU MISSING OUT?

When:- Saturday 13 November Where:- Morphett Vale Tavern

Time:- 7 P M Cost:- \$15 per head For what?:- Entree, choice

of 5 dishes for main course, sweets, coffee and mints And what else:-

Presentation of prizes for Spring Show.

Final call for names and deposit - be a starter.

As this Gazette coincides with our main orchid show for this Spring perhaps a few late pointers for those who are exhibiting their plants and beautiful blooms at Colonnades Regional Shopping Center. through a whole twelve months of work, joy, despair and eventual readiness f or the important event, it would be a sad thing if while transporting your plants to the Show, flowers oreven spikes were to be broken. Much care is needed when loading and unloading plants and of course whilst travelling. It pays to place an extra stake or two in the pots and secure the racemes from flopping about or rubbing against the side of the vehicle or another plant. Many a labellum has been broken in this way, which causes a bit of heartache and unfortunately will do again no matter what precautions are taken. We are to be taken through a talk on preparation of plants for the showbench on Tuesday 14 Sept so there is no need to go into that side of things. Take care to keep plants to be exhibited watered in the final days leading up to setting up day, as the air conditioned atmosphere tends to dry the pots. It isof course much better to start the Show with a moist compost than to try and keep a dry plant in tip top condition for a week under these conditions. No doubt you alert growers have seen the steady increase of the furry caterpillar crawling about the place over the last week or two and great attention must be given to checking all over thebuds on the opening spikes for this and other 'baddies' that can destroy 12 months work overnight. Unfortunately they also work in the day time as well. Have you had the terrible experience of finding out that these 'crawlies' like to take a sample of every bud on the stem instead of cleaning up one bud at a time? I find that just a casual look does not work; you must carefullyrun your fingers along the underside of the buds to catch some of these villians. The pleasure one gets from stepping on them does not make up for the damage they have done. Don't make the mistake of spraying your spikes after the buds begin to emerge from the protective sheaf as this will result in I have found that a careful spray when the plants are ruined flowers. cool and certainly not when there is a chance of sunlight getting on them for an hour or so with the can at present on the market 'Mortein House & Garden Spray' has had no visible effect on my Cymbidium flowers, when signs of aphid or green grubs are seen. I am not advocating its flagrant use because of my experience and would suggest the safer method of dusting with one of the chemical lines available. Bees too can leave their tell-tale sign for all to see when the lip of one or more flowers begin to turn pink and later red. naturally enough, the loss of the pollen cap which will also happen at times with harsh handling of the spike. You have all discovered the favourite hiding place of the little slugs and snails to be in the rim of the older type plastic pot? Lift your pots up high enough to check under the bottom of them and if they have a rim or mounting for a handle, that is where these pests hide during the day and come out at night to do their 'tasty' eating, on your favourite showbench Can we stress again in the lastlittle time before plant naturally. the Show, now that you have your colour into the flowers, shade them to prewerve that colour particularly the greens, pinks and reds. Remember too that heat will tend to make the flowers soft so cooler conditions are called for. You may well ask, How?

One does not have to be the owner of expensive equipment to do this when shade cloth or even hessian spread across the flowering house roof will do the job, for the 'back yard' grower as some would have most amateur orchidists known.

Some growers find it a good system to take special plants into the home for the final preparation of show plants and this is good when only a few plants are involved but, do take care that sufficient air flow is maintained around the plants and that they are not put in an atmosphere that is too hot and dry. This will hasten the opening of flowers but can also cause limpness in the petals too.

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# Dendrobium kingianum

This species grows naturally from Central Eastern New south Wales almost to the Tropic of Capricorn and from within a few kilometres of the eastern coast to, in a certain area at least, about 400 kilometres inland. It varies also from a few metres above sea level to about 1300 metres; often on rocks or cliffs in rather exposed situations but is sometimes still found in gullys where it gets a fair bit of shade.

A plant in its natural habitat and under favourable conditions, forms a mat-like covering over an area of several square metres. Most plants will, under some conditions, freely produce aerial growths from near the top of the stem and vary from about 2 to 10 cm long. The spikes also come from near the top of the stem and vary from 3 to 9 cm and bear from 2 to 15 blooms.

The usual growth from the plant has from two to six leaves and these are borne near the top of the stem and vary from about 3 cm to at least 10 cm long. This is a good companion orchid for the shade h use cymbidiums but needs far more shade than the latter. Many growers place them in the shade of the larger cymbidium plants.

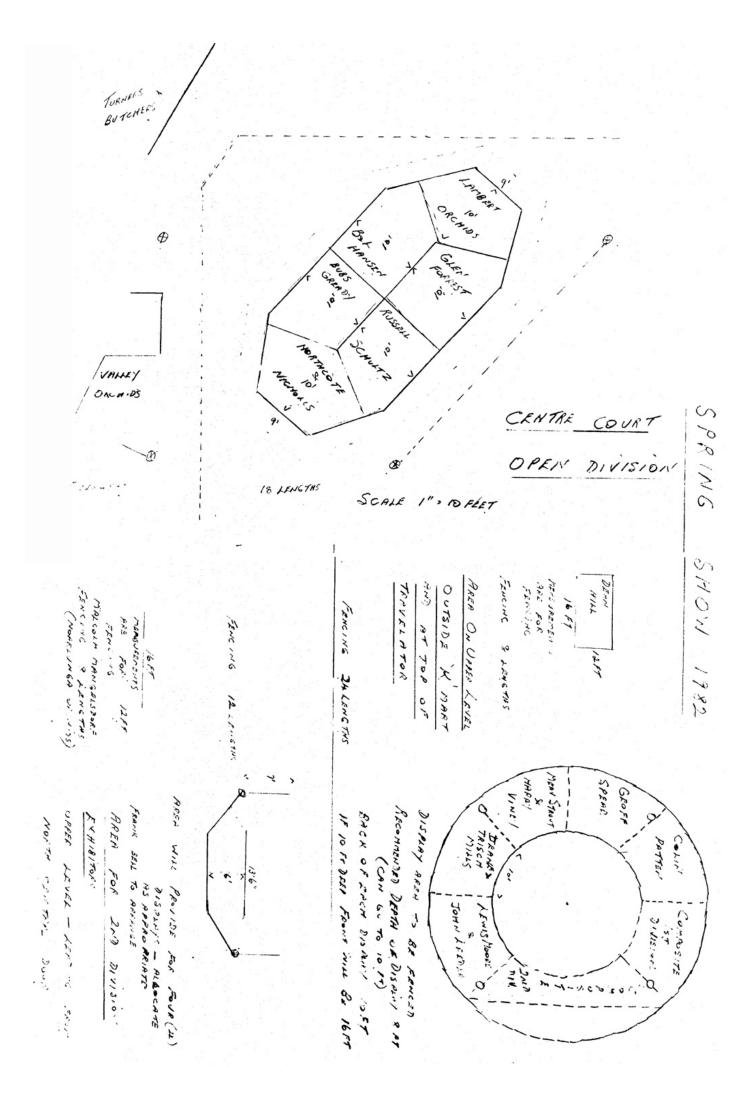
Dendrobium kingianum can be potted in a mixture of fine bark with a little peat moss or well rotted casuarina leaves. (common she-oak), rather than ordinary pine needles which can retain harmful properties like turpentine etc. The plants are hardy but better conditions will result in better growth. Although a few flowers will be obtained from small plants, a well grown specimen plant will reward the owner with a delightful potful of growths and flowers, which range from a deep pink to almost white; shades of mauveare also included in the range. If you are not already hooked on this native orchid, it is fairly easily obtained so give one or two a home in your collection if only for the

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# NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members:Mr & Mrs Tuncks Mr R W Fisher
MrD Quinn Mr G A T Trembath (Junior)

benefit of promoting our own native orchids.



MONTHLY PLANT COMP	PET IT ION	SEPTEMBER MEETING	ì
OPEN DIVISION			
Aus. Native .	Den. gracilicaule	W J Nicholls	3
Cymbidiums	Eagle Wood 'Bubbles'	Bubs Gready	3
	Valya Craig 'Sutherland'	Bubs Gready	2
	Dorus Aurea x Miretta	W J Nicholls	3
Dendrobiums	Den Impact	W J Nicholls	3
Miscellaneous	Haemaria Discolor Dawsoniana	W J Nicholls	3
Phalaenopsis	Zada Malibu x Betty Lee	W J Nicholls	3
-	Zada	W J Nicholls	2
Species Paph	hennisianum	W J Nicholls	3
Paphiopedilum	chamberliemiana Globus x		
	spiceria num	W J Nicholls	3
	Month and President's Flower of gle Wood 'Bubbles' Bubs Gready		
1ST DIVISION			
Aus. Native Epi.	Den. Delicatum	L & R Moore	3
•	Den. Rosemary Jupp	11	2
	Den Delicatum	P Barnes	1
Aus. Native Ter.	Ptst pedunculate	P Barnes	3
	Pist. curta	G & L Spear	2
	Ptst. plumosa	L & R Moore	1
Cymbidiums	Jean Slattery 'Cecil Park'	G & L Spear	3
	Harry Shepherd x Valley Parad	-	2
	Lowianum hybrid	J & B Gay	1
Mini Cyms.		P Barnes	3
	Pipet <sub>a</sub> 'Red Gem' Pumilum x C ariga	P Barnes	2
Novelty Cyms.	Sylvia Miller 'Serendipity'	J Leeder	3
Moverty Cyms.	Alice Bird 'Red Gem'	L & R Moore	2
Cattleyas	Gaillard 'Mermos Trimos'	P Barnes	3
Cattleyas	Lc Grosky Gold x Lc Firefly e		2
Dendrobiums	Den. Alice Iwanage 'Happiness		3
Miscellaneous	C intermedia x Diacrum Bicorn		3
			3
Paphiopedilum	Farnmoore x Winston Churchill		
	Alugrades x Illustre	D & J May	2
Name 3 Acres Donate	Leeanum	L & R Moore	1
Novelty Paph.	niveum x chamberlainum	R Parish	3
Species Paph	appletonianum	R Parish	3
	tonsum	R Parish	2
	barbatum	D & J May	1
Species Division Flower of	Trichoglottis Luzohensis Month Den. Alice Iwanage 'Happi	P Barnes ness' P Barnes	3
2ND DIVISION			
Aus. Nat Epi	Den speciosum	J & P Lewis	3
	Den Wonga	D Biebrick	2
	Den, Bardo Rose	H & B Viney	1
Cymbidiums	Nickey Kuringal x Joan of Arc		3
	Flagstaff Hill	Mr & Mrs Goodall	2
	Harry B Ireland 'Surprise'	"	1
Mini Cyms.	Pumilow	T Howard	3
	S <b>o</b> phie	D Biebrick	2
	Tommy 'Adelaide'	M & S Steele	1
Nov. Cyms	Sarah 'Lonsdale High'	Don Gray	3
	Breunor	J & B Gay	2

# WARNING ON VIRUS SYMPTONS

This was a heading recently printed in the Australian Orchid Review and is reprinted here as an article of interest to all orchid growers who may not be subscribers or readers of that publication. The author is Mr W R Johnson of Glenwood Orchids Pty Ltd Victoria and President of The Mornington Peninsular Orchid Society.

It concerns the recent cases where symptons akin to virus have been appearing in collections where seaweed based fertiliser is or has been used. The author has found that an excess of iodine will produce these symptons. To quote him:— "I am sure that any warnings you could give in the A O R would give peace of mind to a large number of orchid growers. It would also serve as a warning that any new product promoted for orchids should be used with care until carefully tested".

"The experiments indicated that a commonly used fertilizer derived from seaweed was the cause of the problem. Some of the symptons are almost identical to TMV (Tobacco Mosaic Virus) and it is this which concerns us, because many users of this product are destroying their orchids in the belief that they have the virus. Furthermore they are being told that by very experienced commercia; growers. That being the case the results of our experience should be made known to avoid any further distress. Since completeing the i itial experiments I have conducted 'in vitro' testing by adding weak seaweed fertilizer to agar medium and have grown on some mericlone tissue, and some seedlings in a medium containing KI (potassium iodide). In both instances I was able to produce the chlorotic streaking in the leaves of the seedlings and mericlone tissue. would indicate that the seaweed product might contain iodine in sufficient quantity to cause the reaction. In the light of recent data it is also possible that a cytokinin said to be present in seaweed derivatives could also cause some of the other symptons. e.g. blistering, or uncontrolled growth areas producing deformities. Although only weak fertilizer was used on our test plants the symptons were produced in a lot of them. mature plants the symptons will not appear, but on the new shoots the It is obvious that the offending symptons will be most pronounced. ingredient will mostly affect the meristemic area. As the leaves grow a band of the affected area will appear across the leaves and one can virtually see the stop and start of the recation. In the past four months I have surveyed a number of users of seaweed based fertilizer (covering three States) and in each case the same symptons were appearing on their cymbidiums and of course they were destroying their plants. There would appear to be good reason therefore for a warning that seaweed based fertilizer be used withgreat care. Information has been provided to manufacturers and the initial response has been that they welcome it and will look into it,"

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MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION SEPTEMBER (Contd)

Nov Cyms Showgirl 'Julie Christie' Hugh Grund 1

Species Bletilla 'Striata' A Hylton 3.

Division Flower of Month Cym Pumilow T Howard

# NOMENCLATURE

The Australian Orchid Council urges standardization of Nomenclature in accordance with International Rules and the International Orchid Commission Handbook on Orchid Nomenclature and Registration . In particular:-

### CORRECT WRITING OF ORCHID NAMES

Species and their variants.

Each species has a generic name, or first term eg Cattleya, also a specific epithet, or second term, eg skinneri.

The two terms together constitute the specific name of the species: Cattleya skinneri.

When written they are always in italiacd or underlined. The generic name begins with a capital letter but the specific epithet (second term) is written with a small first letter even when it is derived from a personal name.

A varietal epithet (third term) is given to a distinctive race within a species, it is preceded by the abbreviation var. (for variety) in Roman letters, and is in italics or underlined and without a capital Example: Cymbidium lowianum var concolor

A special clone of a species may be given a cultivar epithet (Third or fourth term). It is not latinised, has a capital, is not in italics and has single quotes.

Examples: Cymbidium <u>lowianum</u> var. concolor IPic<sub>a</sub>rdy' (fourth term) Cattleya skinneri 'Mistral' (third term)

Artificial Hybrids.

The generic name (first term) begins with a capital and is in italics or underlined. The second term is always a registered hybrid name. It is not latinised, is in Roman letters, and the initial letter is a capital. Example: Cymbidium Highland Mist.

A special clone of a hybrid may be distinguished by a cultivar epithet. It is in Roman letters, has a capital, and is in single quotes. All three terms constitute the cultivar name. Example Cymbidium Highland Mist 'Dillabirra'

### GENERAL POINTS

The word 'species' is both singular and plural.

The word genus is singular and its plural is genera.

Generic names are always one word and abbreviations must adhere to this. Thus B1c, Bc. Slc. etc

Note that var. or variety is only used for species orchids and refers to a race, not a clone.

Ack: - Standards for Judgjing Handbook as published by A O C.

Regrettably many members do not understand or a uninformed on the procedure for the labelling of plants. It is to be hoped that the above information will be of assistance.