

The South Coast Orchid Club of SA Inc.
Gazette

**May
2013**



PRESIDENT: Geoff Spear

PATRON: Sydney Monkhouse

AT A GLANCE

The next meeting of the South Coast Orchid Club will be held at 8pm on Wednesday 1st May 2013 at St. Bernadette's Church Hall corner of Walsh Avenue and South Road, St. Marys. Our guest speaker will be Trevor Jacobs speaking on "The history of Orchids". This will be a different presentation to the one given two years ago.

BEGINNERS' GROUP MAIN MEETING

Now held in Main Hall near Secretary's Table at 7.15p.m. Pauline Hockey will give a talk on how to select plants that you buy.

DAYTIME CHAPTER

The next meeting will be held at Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton on Thursday 9th May 2013 at 2pm. Guest speakers Lesley and Robert Gunn. Topic: Their last trip to Equador.

SOUTHERN REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting will be held at 2pm on Sunday 19th May 2013 in Carrickalinga House, 17-19 Torrens Street, Victor Harbor. The guest speaker will be Trevor Jacobs presenting 'The History of Orchids'.

WHAT'S ON BEFORE THE MEETING

Trading Table:

You'll find Des and Hazel here each month to give advice on all new lines available. They have been loyal members for many years.

Plant Raffle Tickets:

David Williams, another very loyal member, always there to sell you raffle tickets.

Lucky Square: Buy a lucky square from Louise Inall you may win a bag of bark.

Library:

Visit Henk, another great guy. You'll find good orchid books here to borrow.

Treasurer:

Judy McRedmond is always available to take payments for subs or social activities. Buy a lucky number from Judy and you may win \$25.

Orchid Plants on Show: Enjoy the plants but please leave the judging area by 7.50p.m.

Beginners' Group: 7.15p.m. before main meeting.

PUBLIC LIABILITY

Under Insurance Guideline all members and Committee attending any function or meeting held by the Club must now sign an attendance book by name and signature.

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

E-Mail: secretary@scocsa.net

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.**

EDITOR: Rod McRedmond Ph 08 8293 3545

CLUB MEETING DATES

<p>May 2013</p> <p>01 Main meeting – Trevor Jacobs on on Wierdo orchids</p> <p>08 Committee Meeting</p> <p>09 Daytime Chapter - Leslie Gunn on 2012 Equador Trip</p> <p>19 Southern Region Group - Trevor Jacob on Old World Orchids</p> <p>June 2013</p> <p>05 Main meeting – Interstate Speaker Steven Stebbings on species</p> <p>12 Committee Meeting</p> <p>13 Daytime Chapter -</p> <p>16 Southern Region Group - Kevin Cattermole on creating conditions for orchids</p> <p>July 2013</p> <p>03 Main meeting - Nicky Zurcher on paphiopedilums</p> <p>10 Committee Meeting</p> <p>11 Daytime Chapter</p> <p>21 Southern Region Group - Shadehouse visit to Jane & Don Higgs</p> <p>August 2013</p> <p>07 Main meeting - Les Nesbit on potting tubers for terrestials</p> <p>14 Committee Meeting</p> <p>15 Daytime Chapter</p> <p>18 Southern Region Group - Noel Oliver on Australian Native Cattleyas</p> <p>September 2013</p> <p>04 Main meeting- Alan Davies on Olympic Dam</p> <p>11 Committee Meeting</p> <p>12 Daytime Chapter</p> <p>15 Southern Region Group - Brian Lyttle on Oncidiums</p>	<p>October 2013</p> <p>02 Main meeting - Leslie & Robert Gunn on 2012 Equador Trip</p> <p>09 Committee Meeting</p> <p>10 Daytime Chapter</p> <p>20 Southern Region Group - Roger Herriman on species cymbidiums</p> <p>November 2013</p> <p>06 Main meeting - Brian Lyttle on Oncidium Alliance</p> <p>13 Committee Meeting</p> <p>14 Daytime Chapter</p> <p>17 Southern Region Group - Leslie & Robert Gunn on 2012 Equador Trip</p> <p>December 2013</p> <p>04 Main meeting- Roger Herriman on species cymbidiums</p> <p>11 Committee Meeting</p> <p>12 Daytime Chapter</p> <p>15 Southern Regional Group - Lunch Middleton Tavern & G Zerbe TBA</p>
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SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Donna Meeuwsen
Box 314
OAKLANDS PARK
7200 3380

TREASURER

Judy McRedmond
Box 314
OAKLANDS PARK
8293 3545

SECRETARY

Lucy Spear
Box 314
OAKLANDS PARK
8381 4420

AUTUMN SHOW PASADENA SHOPPING CENTRE

The Autumn Show is only 2 weeks away. Let's make this a spectacular Show. The Committee needs members' assistance.

1. Volunteers to help on Trading Table.
2. Ask Dorothy for swing tickets and selling sheets.

REMINDER: To show your plants at the Autumn Show you must be a financial member and have owned your plant for at least 6 months.

AUTUMN SHOW DISPLAY

Pasadena Shopping Centre, Five Ash Drive, Pasadena. Enter from ground floor car park up the escalator to exhibit in front of Dan Murphy's or you may go via supermarket entrance on the ground level.

Judging: Saturday 4th May 2013 Hamilton School, 815 Marion Road, Mitchell Park.

Put in Time: 12 Noon and Judging 1.00pm. **SHARP.**

Trading Table: Saturday 4th May: Members may bring selling plants in from 4.30p.m. to 7.30p.m. and shopping hours during the rest of the week.

Display: PRIOR ARRANGEMENTS MUST BE MADE TO TAKE YOUR PLANTS FROM HAMILTON SCHOOL TO PASADENA. Your display plants may be taken into Pasadena at 4.30p.m. Please take your plants to Pasadena as soon as possible for us to build a beautiful display. This is an excellent site and we have many customers just waiting for our return. It must be about 5 years since we have been here.

Most important: The Show Marshall will ring any member if for some reason she feels that any plants may be starting to show any sign of stress.

2013 S.A.R.O.C. ORCHID FAIR

Venue: The Drill Hall, Torrens Parade Ground, North Terrace, Adelaide at the rear of Government House. Free parking on Parade Ground.

Friday 7th June.

Hall opens 10.00a.m. for Set Up. For Displays 12.00p.m. – Helpers please.

DISPLAY: completed by 5.30p.m.

JUDGING: 6.00p.m. – Award Judging – notify Roger Rankin by 7th June.

Saturday 8th June

Hall Open 9.00a.m. to 5.00p.m.

Dinner at Oakden Central, cnr. Fosters Rd and Hilltop Drive, Oakden commencing at 6.30 pm.

Members wishing to attend please see Lucy at May meeting or phone her on 83814420 before 20th May.

Members to pay on the night.

Sunday 9th June:

Hall open 9.00a.m. to 4.00p.m.

BIRTHDAY DRAW

Is your name in the book?

BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS

Anne Campbell, Lea Fisher, Ronald Hannaford, Geoff Spear, Helen Western.

PLANTS WANTED

Members you may have plants you would like to donate to the Club. The Club always gives new members a plant. You may be able to help. Please phone Lucy on 8381 4420. P.S. Old wrapping paper and ties would also be appreciated.

LUCKY NAME BADGE

Make sure you wear your Name Badge, you may win a prize.

NEW MEMBERS:

Welcome to Bill Jayne and Helen McIntosh.

ORCHID CALENDAR FOR 2013**AUTUMN SHOW**

SUNDAY 5th MAY TO SATURDAY 11th MAY at the Pasadena Shopping Centre

S.A.R.O.C. FAIR

SATURDAY 8th JUNE AND SUNDAY 9th JUNE at the

Torrens Parade Ground Drill Hall

SOUTHERN ORCHID VISIT

SUNDAY 21ST JULY B.B.Q. AND PLANT HOUSE VISIT J. and D. Higgs. Your own transport.

MAIN GROUP WORKSHOP

TBA

WINTER SHOW

SUNDAY 28th JULY TO SATURDAY 3rd AUGUST at Colonnades Shopping Centre

SOUTHERN REGION GROUP SHOW THURSDAY 29th AUGUST TO SUNDAY 1st

SEPTEMBER at R.S.L. Hall, Coral Street, Victor Harbor.

BUS TRIP

SUNDAY 11th AUGUST Depart Lou Kesting Hall 9am.

SPRING SHOW

SUNDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER TO SATURDAY 28th SEPTEMBER at Arndale Shopping Centre.

SOUTHERN GROUP WORKSHOP

FRIDAY 18TH OCTOBER at Reg and Elsie Clifford's home.

2013 COMMITTEE**PRESIDENT**

Geoffrey Spear

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Donna Meuwesen

VICE PRESIDENT

Paul Hayes

TREASURER

Judy McRedmond

SECRETARY

Lucy Spear

COMMITTEE

Dorothy Carasai, Rod McRedmond, Louise Inall, Peer Hennessy, Rowan Crowhurst, Barbara Almond, Andrew Lutz.

2013 SUBSCRIPTION RATES: One membership covers all groups.

Family Membership \$33.00

Single Membership \$25.00

Junior Membership \$17.00

Rural and Interstate Membership

Family Membership \$29.00

Single Membership \$23.00

SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB BUS TRIP TO FLEURIEU PENINSULA

DATE: 11th August 2013.

BUS: Aust Wide Tours

DEPART: Time: T.B.A. Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton.

PLACES TO VISIT (Morning): Sim's Orchids, 123, Barcelona Road, Noarlunga Downs. Including morning tea.

Noarlunga Orchids, 180, Commercial Road, Seaview Meadows.

LUNCH: Middleton Tavern, 37, Goolwa Road, Middleton.

Roast Lunch (2 choices) Salad Bar and Hot Veg Bar.

Cost: \$11.90 (may increase so allow \$13.90)

PLACES TO VISIT (Afternoon): Alexandrina Cheese Company, Sneyd Road, Mt.Jagged via Mt. Compass. \$3.30 Cheese Tasting. \$11.00 Afternoon Tea.

Fern Forest Nursery, 175, Main South Road, Willunga.

Tea/Coffee available at gold coin donation.

COSTING: T.B.A. Around \$40.00 to \$50.00.

Fundraising BBQ at Bunnings , Noarlunga

On Sunday 14th April the club conducted a fundraising BBQ at Bunnings.

Members working were Geoff and Lucy Spear, Daniel Spear, Dorothy Carassai, Paul and Donya Hayes, Louise Inall and Max and Barbara Almond.

Rain was forecast but the day turned out dry and very warm.

By 9am. the marquis was up with customers waiting. By mid afternoon there was a cue of 15 customers waiting with the members flat out cooking and serving.

This turned out to be one of the most profitable ventures that we have undertaken. A job very well done. Thankyou to all concerned.



NEW SEEDLING TROPHY (The 'Chin Yew Lian' Perpetual Trophy)

The Club has been privileged with the offer of a 'Seedling Trophy' for best seedling of the year from Sylvester Ng in memory of his sister in-law Chin Yew Lian. The format will be for any member who has a seedling of any genus to bring it to the monthly meeting and to make sure that it has a white ribbon (supplied) draped over the plant. The plant and flower(s) will be judged in the plant's normal section and division but also as a seedling for that division. The BEST seedling from each division will be judged for 'Seedling of the Night'. The selected plant will be 'pointed' by each participating judge and the ballots will be sealed in an envelope until the end of the year. The same format will apply at the three annual shows.

At the end of the year the envelopes will be opened and the plant with the greatest averaged points will be declared the winner and receive the Chin Yew Lian Pep Perpetual Trophy for the Best Seedling of that year, suitably inscribed for the grower to retain for the following year. The trophy will be presented annually to the winner at the Annual General Meeting in February.

For your information:

How a seedling is determined

SEEDLING: AOC Guidelines for Judging Appendix B:

A seedling shall mean the complete plant grown from seed (not a Mericlone or Meristem), flowering for the first time. It shall retain its seedling status throughout the flowering season in which it first flowers. Sequential flowering Paphiopedilums, for example retain their seedling status only up to and including the third flower.

Here's your chance to participate in a new and exciting competition, so bring in your seedlings and mark them with a white ribbon so they are not missed for judging.

Graham J. Zerbe
AOC Judge

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A little over a week and the Autumn Show will be upon us. How time flies. All the information is in this magazine. I would like to encourage you all to display your orchids at this important Show. It is our first time back at Pasadena in many years. We have many customers in this area who follow us from Show to Show, so let's make this an Autumn Spectacular. Please read the article that Dorothy has written in the April Gazette. Even experienced growers can benefit from reading this article. You may have a few comments you may like to add to this important form.

We have had plenty of good feedback from our last meeting. All members seem to enjoy our workshop and you certainly had four very experienced members showing you how they grow their orchids.

Would you all believe that I have had 5 different Stanhopea in flower and not one on a meeting night. The only way to show them off was to take them for a drive to show friends. I have shown Daniel and Rowan how to hybridise them as my hands shake too much. I wonder what the results will produce.

Wishing all the mothers a very Happy Mother's Day.

Good growing and showing.

Geoff.

Daytime Chapter

Hi Everyone,

Our guest speaker today was Graham Zerbe, a gentleman with many talents, a good husband to wife Sue, a judge at our monthly meetings (including Victor Harbor) still working his day job, a good friend to have and also a great guest speaker who showed us an excellent Powerpoint presentation. This presentation showed us many different variation of epiphytic orchids. The differences in shape and colour of these orchids were all wonderful to see. Many of these can be grown at home if you take the time and put in the effort. It would certainly be well worth the effort doing this as these orchids are really something to see. Thank you Graham for sharing your time and all this great information with us all. We really enjoyed this.

Applogies today from Joy Starkey, Don & Audrey Biebeck, Ralph and Heather Lucas, Barbara and Graham Randell. Thanks for the phone calls, we hope to see you all again soon. Wishing everyone on the not so well list a speedy recovery.

Our Autumn Show at Pasadena is coming up very soon,. This should be great as we will be back on our old stomping ground again.

The bus trip is looking good, the more people that go the less it will cost us, so please enquire about this.

Our display table had a nice selection of genera today all good to see. Mr Lance Davis had a lovely *C. bowringiana* plant with approx 3 spikes with many lovely blooms, well displayed and presented. This plant was voted in best on the day so congratulations and well done Lance. Graham did the plant commentary today, doing an excellent job, (we gave Geoff a break)! Thank you Graham.

To Margaret and Bill enjoy your holiday, Take Care.

The Meeting was closed, a cuppa next on the list. Thanking all in attendance.

Bye Lance Davis and Dorothy Carassai with Lance's plant of the day *C. 'Bowringiana'*



Dorothy 8277 1793



SOUTHERN REGION GROUP MEETING SUNDAY 21st APRIL

Beginners Class: Noel Oliver once again gave an interesting segment on how to look after your Zygos.

The President opened the meeting at 2pm, thanked Noel and welcomed members and guests. There were 31 members present. Geoff spoke about the Autumn Show and how members are looking forward to the return to Pasadena. He also spoke about upcoming events and a new product from Neutrog called Strike Back.

Guest Speaker: Geoff Spear talking and giving demonstrations on his favourite Genera, Cymbidiums.

APOLOGIES: Helen Humphries, Marilyn Jelfs and Shirley Greig.

NEW MEMBER Adrian Gates.

JUDGING Graham Zerbe and Noel Oliver

The plant of the day was won by *Paph.* Lady Light Album benched by Ruth Tugwell.

A well grown plant with the flower well above the foliage. Very good shape and size. The plant is growing well with two other growths. The plant was well worthy of flower of the day. Congratulations Ruth.

The Popular vote was won by *Sc.* Summer Magic benched by Eileen Pinnock.

Next Meeting: 19th May.

Beginners' Group: Geoff Spear speaking on Cymbidiums

The Guest Speaker will be Trevor Jacobs speaking about The History of Orchids.

Noel Oliver with Ruth Tugwell and her Plant of the Day Paph. Lady Light Album



Right: The Popular vote was won by
Sc. Summer Magic benched by Eileen Pinnock.



Left: Geoff Spear talking on his
favourite Genera, Cymbidiums.

SRG April Results List

Ref.No.

Points Awarded

Second Division

Cymbidium – 60 - 90 mm (all colours)

171 Cym. Ruby Red 'Pacific'

Eileen Pinnock 3

Cymbidium -Species (any size)

170 Cym. dayanum

Eileen Pinnock 3

Laeliinae – Standard over 100 mm

176 C. Browniae'

Keith & Russ Sutton 3

177 Bc. Languedoc 'Singapore Welcome'

Keith & Russ Sutton 2

Laeliinae – Standard under 100 mm

172 Sc. Summer's Magic

Eileen Pinnock 3

173 C. Valentine Day

Keith & Russ Sutton 2

175 Epi. Red

Cliff Wegener 1

Oncidiinae Hybrid – Oncidium Hybrid

181 Milt. Christina Carpenter Rumsfelt

Eileen Pinnock 3

182 Col. Wildcat

Ruth Tugwell 2

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere – Hybrid

184 Stenoglottis longifolia

Grace Noll 3

185 Stenoglottis longifolia

Ruth Tugwell 2

Paphiopedilum – Standard

179 Paph. Ladylight Album

Ruth Tugwell 3

180 Paph. Crossianum

Ruth Tugwell 2

Paphiopedilum – Standard

178 Paph. (collosum x charlesworthii)

Ruth Tugwell 3

April Results List

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

Open Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

70	Den. Colonial Campio	Bev & John Gay (65)	2
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Australian Native Epiphyte - Species

69	Den. <i>lithicola</i>	Bev & John Gay (65)	3
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Cymbidium - less than 60mm (all colours)

71	Cym. Seven Waterfalls	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	3
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Laeliinae - Non Standard Cluster

90	C. Valentine Day 'Dorothy'	Bev & John Gay (65)	3
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91	Epi. Salmon King	Bev & John Gay (65)	2
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92	Ctna. Capri x C. Penny Kuroda	Richard & Beryl Wilson (321)	1
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Laeliinae - Non Standard Laeliinae

93	Pot. Hoku Gem 'Freckles'	Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	3
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94	C. (Summer Stars x forbesii)	Bev & John Gay (65)	2
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95	Thw. Jungle Treasure	Bev & John Gay (65)	1
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Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm

89	C. Bonanza 'Paydirt'	Richard & Beryl Wilson (321)	3
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Laeliinae - Standard under 100mm

87	Sc. Cherry Bee x Blc. Zilzie Fry	Denis & Glenys Cook (194)	3
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88	C. Burgundy Gem 'Arcadia'	Richard & Beryl Wilson (321)	2
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Oncidiinae - Species

111	Milt. <i>clowesii</i>	Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	3
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Oncidiinae Hybrid - Any other Oncidiiae)

115	Milt. Dale Sockery	Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	3
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116	Milt. Anne Warne	Kevin Trevan (295)	2
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Oncidiinae Hybrid - Oncidium Hybrid

112	Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'	Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	3
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113	Onc. Kalini	Gerald Voskamp (1650)	2
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114	Onc. (Gower Ramsey x Burgoffanum)	Bev & John Gay (65)	1
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Orchid Crossing (Hybrid or Species - Pollen Parent)

123	Cym. Seven Waterfalls	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	3
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Orchid Seedling - any Genera

122	Sc. Cherry Bee x Blc. Zilzie Fry	Denis & Glenys Cook (194)	3
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Vandaeae - Hybrid

117	Mokara 'Bota Gold'	Peter & Geraldine Flavel (487)	3
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118	Sartylis Toowoomba Sparkle 'Coconut Ice'	Kevin Trevan (295)	2
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Zygopetalum Hybrid (inc. intergenerics)

119	Zga. Kuitpo 'Playfair'	Kevin Trevan (295)	3
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120	Zcx. Nova	Kevin Trevan (295)	2
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121	Z. Artur Elle x Zba. (Elfin Jade x Helen-Ku)	Kevin Trevan (295)	1
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First Division

Cymbidium - 60 - 90 mm (all colours)

84	Cym. (Pure Lemon x Peter Pan)	Ian & Denise Attenborough (450)	3
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85	Cym. Pixie Dust 'Triune'	Silvester Ng (1491)	2
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86	Cym. (Willunga Eyecatcher x Mesa Zia)	Silvester Ng (1491)	1
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Cymbidium - less than 60mm (all colours)

83	Cym. Zig Zag 'Kiwi'	Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby, (1252)	3
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Laeliinae - Non Standard Cluster

102	Lc. <i>intercepts</i>	Rito & Rosetta Silvestri (302)	3
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Laeliinae - Non Standard Laeliinae

103	C. Valentine Day 'Leanne'	Malcolm Young (754)	3
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104	Blc. Makaha Gold x Ctt. Chocolate Drop	Malcolm Young (754)	2
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Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm

99	C. Clark Herman 'Carli'	Trevor & Helen Stutley (1139)	3
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100	C. Hawaiian Wedding Song 'Virgin'	Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby, (1252)	2
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101	C. Hawaiian Wedding Song 'Virgin'	Ian & Denise Attenborough (450)	1
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Laeliinae - Standard under 100mm

96	Ctna. Capri Lea	Rito & Rosetta Silvestri (302)	3
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97	Ctna. Fairly Flare 'Joyleen'	Rito & Rosetta Silvestri (302)	2
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98	Lc. Mini Purple 'Tamami'	Ian & Denise Attenborough (450)	1
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April Results List (cont.)

Ref. No.			Points Awarded
Oncidiinae - Species			
105	<i>Onc. trulliferum</i>	Trevor & Helen Stutley (1139)	3
Oncidiinae Hybrid - Any other Oncidiiae)			
107	<i>Milt. cogniauxiae</i>	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	3
108	Burr. Living Fire 'Glowing Embers'	Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby, (1252)	2
Oncidiinae Hybrid - Oncidium Hybrid			
106	<i>Onc. Sharry Baby</i> 'Sweet Fragrance'	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	3
Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species			
109	<i>Gongora galeata</i>	Wendy Lodge (406)	3
Zygopetalum Hybrid (inc. intergenerics)			
110	Z. Titanic 'Kenneth'	Silvester Ng (1491)	3

April Plant Commentary

Flower of Open Division and Flower of the Night: *Onc. Sharry Baby* 'Sweet Fragrance' benched by Geoff and Lucy Spear. A large, showy plant with four arching and branched inflorescences. The flowers were well staked and displayed. Sepals and petals were deep maroon and the labelum was also deep maroon with a white skirt.



April Plant Commentary (cont.)

Flower of First Division: *Ctna. Capri Lea* benched by Rito and Rosetta Silvestri. A large plant with nine inflorescences, eight carrying two to five flowers, most of which were open on the arching spikes and a single flower on the ninth stem still to fully open. The flowers were round and well filled in, the sepals purple/pink with deep purple on the outer one third then shading towards the centre to light pink/cream right at the flowers centre. Colouring of the labellum was deep purple for the largest portion tapering to yellow at the centre and cream either side of the centre.



Flower of Second Division: *Onc. Sharry Baby 'Mutation'* benched by Paul and Donya Hayes. A large plant with seven large arching inflorescences with many flowers (all open) plus one inflorescence still in bud. The inner two thirds of the sepals were red/brown with the outer one third a very pale green. The labellum was white with some maroon and pale yellow colouring towards the centre of the flower.



Orchid Culture Notes for May.

May usually sees the true break in season when the warm balmy days of autumn are replaced by the cold of winter. Weather can be erratic this month with temperatures up in the high 20's down to the low teens. Usually the first frosts happen this month especially if the air remains dry. I do remember one May where we had an exceptional run of days over 25C with light winds but in general May is the month when the North Westerlies increase and rainfall becomes a little more reliable towards the end of the month. This means provision of additional cover should now be a consideration. Ideally most enclosures for our plants should have a section with a hard roof to keep plants dry or at least some plastic sheeting to provide some level of cover. I opt for the opal colour polycarbonate sheet that provides 55% shade cover as the next few months sees the sun low in the sky and light levels need to be maximised for most genera this time of year. Solar weave is a useful temporary cover as well.

Another recommendation for the cover is that many of our plants are now or about to go into spike. Wet developing flower heads will mark or be affected with various fungal problems so that little extra cover will make all the difference and you have the added bonus that you can work with your plants even if it's raining.

Also inspect your plants and make adjustments to those that are unstable as we don't want that nice specimen covered in flower spikes falling over during the next gale do we? Check hanging plants next time you water or it rains and take notice where the water drips down as you don't want it dripping onto another plant below or eroding the soil based mix that homes the terrestrials. Even dew condensing off a hard roof can cause issues for the unfortunate plants below it.

Watering should be reduced now as the cooler weather and higher humidity means our pots don't dry out so fast and secondly many plants are now entering a rest phase. Typical genera that require resting periods are the native epiphytes, cattleyas and oncidiums. Many other genera continue to grow albeit a little more slowly and these include cymms, zygoes, sarcochilus and paphiopedilums to name a few. Resting plants should receive little or no water for long periods during their rest, depending on the genera, and no fertiliser as they won't use it. If anything feeding a resting plant may prove a disaster to the root system so when the plant breaks dormancy in spring it uses up all energy into replacing the lost root system at the expense of a strong new growth.

You will find many resting plants bulbs and canes will shrivel, some quite markedly. This is quite normal. Some will lose their leaves entirely. For example *Catasetums* and some *Lycaste's*. These stay fully dry as they grow a new root system every year.

If I do water any of the resting plants I will give them a little drink and only in the mornings on a rising temperature. The bulbs and canes fill out quite quickly again. In nature despite enduring up to 6 months without any rain they do experience heavy dews at night that moistens the bark and mosses they attach to so they never really go totally without a drink. Those plants that are always on the move can continue to be fed and watered at a reduced rate to that which applies during the main growing season.

Feeding wise should be reduced to fortnightly and again in the mornings so plants are dry by night-fall. May usually gives us a good indication of what will flower winter and spring and most plants are fed with the high potash, blossom booster feeds to strengthen the racemes and help bring out the colours.

Slugs and snails are now on the move so particular attention to a baiting programme should now be in place especially for those pots full of spikes. Use the blue pellets as they last longer and don't turn into a hairy monster within a few days. There is usually an autumn flush of looper caterpillars as well so ensure you have some Dipel at hand if their numbers are out of hand, otherwise learn to observe the damage they cause to the undersides of the plants leaves and squish them. Soft leaved plants such as *Zygopetalums* and *Phaius* are prone to attack. I have heard that's its best to spray Dipel in the evenings as the grubs continue to feed at night and the spray stays wet much longer giving a more effective result. Ensure both sides of the leaves are covered. If the solution won't stick because

Orchid Culture Notes for May (cont.)

the plants leaves have a waxy coating then add a few drops of dishwashing detergent as a wetting agent. Keep an eye out for any ant movements now as well. These little up to no good critters are most likely introducing some unwanted pests into our collection. Soft scale is one which can be fixed up with Malathion and white oil or a product called Malascale cleans them up nicely. Spray the cymms now before the spikes emerge from their protective sheaths for those that flower for the spring shows.

Mealy bugs are the other problem that once in the collection are very hard to eradicate as apart from living in the leaves and bracts also move into the potting mix where they avoid sprays. Confidor will clean them up. If you have mealies then I suggest you keep the plants isolated from the rest of the collection and very clean. Meaning ensure all leaf bracts are inspected and persistent leaf bases are removed as these are prime hiding places. In severe cases of infestation it is easier to ditch the whole plant rather than try and control it and have it transfer to other plants in the collection. Other chores for May are the cleaning up of our plants and weeding. I find after a rain removal of leaf bracts from my cymbidiums and zygopetalums is much easier. Be careful you don't damage the new growths that start showing this time of year.

Many flowering plants now need staking and ensure they are not tightly tied to the stakes as the spikes are usually growing quickly and need not be fully restricted by ties. Also once staked in position it becomes important not to move the plants around as the spikes will twist and contort trying to follow the sun if they keep getting moved around. A spray with Mancozeb is always a good bet this time of year to help eliminate some fungal problems associated with this time of year and don't forget foliar feeding either. Even though a plant's roots have gone into dormancy, the plant will still accept nourishment via its leaves.

It is now time to inspect the natives. Most of them will now begin to show the start of their flowering buds. It is certainly a time of year I get excited. Remove any dead leaves and hang them high and dry.

Many plants will shed a few leaves and the cymbidiums are no exception. Mostly it is the odd leaf on an old matured growth. If there are many yellowing leaves on the one plant it would pay to feel the bulb. Bulb rot has been common this year given the heat of summer and the extended Indian summer of March and April. A soft bulb is a dead giveaway of bulb rot and more often than not it is fatal, especially on smaller plants. It would pay to dispose of any plants where the rot is significant unless it is a prized plant in which case you do what you can to save it. Place the pot and the mix into the rubbish and not the compost heap, otherwise the problem will spread. Spread the plants out and spray with a preventative fungicide, plants, pots and benches in the immediate area where the infection was noticed.

Poor air movement from overcrowding is a common cause of this problem.

Steve Howard

Come on Members
Have a go
for the Club Trophy!!!



The Garard-Western Hybridising Trophy

The Garard-Western Hybridising Trophy will be awarded at the end of the year to the person/s who exhibit/s the best seedling bred by a member, using parent plants owned by themselves or another member.

There are two trophies, one for the supplier of the pollen and one for the grower of the pod parent. These can either go to the same member, (if you supply both), or to two different members in the case where the pollen is supplied by another member.

MOST IMPORTANTLY BOTH THE POLLEN SUPPLIER AND THE GROWER MUST BE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SA INC.

When exhibiting in this class a green ribbon is to be used to indicate a pollen parent, a blue ribbon for the pod parent and a white ribbon should also be displayed if the plant is a seedling.

This trophy will run in conjunction with the normal seedling competition and the same rules apply. The only difference is that the showing members must own the parent plants.

The judges point plants up each month. Top points receive the cup or cups at the AGM.

Get your tooth picks working!!
YOU COULD BE A WINNER

**PT PIRIE & DISTRICTS ORCHID CLUB AUTUMN SHOW &
SPENCER GULF CHALLENGE**

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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. Marys. 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 GROUP: Meets at Carrickalinga House, 17-19 Torrens Street, Victor Harbor at 2.00p.m. on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

THE ORCHID CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Meets at 8pm in The Enfield Community Centre, 540 Regency Road, Enfield on the 1st 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 2nd 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 4th 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 3rd 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 3rd 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 4th 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 4th Wednesday of the month.

Our Affiliated Clubs:

The Murray Bridge and Districts Orchid Club.

The Orchid Club of S.A. Inc.

EVENTS 2013: Winter Show: 13th and 14th July. Enfield Community Centre in the Main Hall.

Spring Show: 6th to 14th September, Goyder Pavilion, Royal Adelaide Showground, Wayville.

Socialising with Sarcs: 2nd November, Enfield Community Centre.

Current Sponsors for our Club

We wish to thank the following persons who have supported us and our shows with donations etc. Members are requested to keep these people in mind when purchasing orchids and supplies.

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