



South Coast Orchid Club of South Australia

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

PATRON: Mr. L.R. Grey (Mayor of Marion)

MONTHLY NEWS SHEET
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Written by Mr. B. Hansen. Printed and edited by Mrs. I. Nash.

The next meeting of the South Coast Orchid Club Inc. will be held in the R.S.L. Hall, Morphett Vale at 8 p.m. on Tuesday June 10th.

We will soon have to change the name of the club to the South Coast Travellers Club. Last month we travelled through Africa by the hard route the easy way, with an extremely interesting set of slides taken en route, and a commentary by Mr. Harold Goldsack. I am sure everybody enjoyed the trip.

For the June meeting we are 'Up up and away', this time with Merv. Dunn to the World Orchid Conference in Hamburg. Merv. will be showing slides of his trip there and back through Natal etc. For those of you who cannot afford an overseas trip - L.S.D. could be a substitute.

Our cultural expert Syd. Monkhouse will do his bit, demonstrating Spike staking "with Models" ??, so this could be a chance to learn how to handle problem spikes.

Well, we had a taste of the Cymbidium flowering season at our last meeting, with a terrific display of eight seedlings of the same cross C.Lunagrad 'Eleanora' x(Earlyana "Starlight" x self). Not one dud, and considering it was May, I feel sure this crossing will be one of the tops for early flowers. I do not blame their owner, Ross Gowling, for being very proud of them. It is nice to be on a winner and that is how you can get a collection of quality orchids, invest in seedlings, who Knows, you may have the same luck.

Growing tips - Those with a heated glasshouse must be careful when watering, do not overwater, but at the same time do not let the plants get too dry, remember it is raining outside not inside.

For those with a cold glasshouse and who are growing Cattleyas, Dendrobates etc. the plants should be kept on the dryer side and watered preferably early in the day when the weather is fine.

Shadehouse care, well I cannot see the need to water now, unless we have a dry spell and then you can add your favourite fertilizer when you give them a drink.

In all situations slug and snail baits should be laid. Watch out for mice in the glasshouses, they often like to winter in the warm. The old fashioned mouse trap made out of galvanised steel that are now available, with a half an almond for bait, are still as good as any, and besides, after the mice have chewed a few buds, it gives you some Moronic satisfaction to trap them. I know it helps to satisfy me.

Stop press - We have just had notification that Bill Young has once again been good enough to donate another Shadehouse for our raffle at the Marion Show. We have also been donated another trip.

Remember we want all your flowers for our Spring show so please take care of them.

Judging results from our May meeting:-

OPEN SECTION

Cymbidium	Lunagrad x Earlyana	Mr. & Mrs. R. Gowling	3 pts
	" "	" " "	2 pts
	" "	" " "	1 pt
Cattleya	L.C. Rocroy "YVONNE"	No name(Please notify)	3 pts
	B.C.LANGUEDOC "Singapore"	Nick Packard	2 pts
	B.C. ORIONS	Mr.& Mrs. J. Hoffner	1 pt
Paphiopedilum	Dimity 'Chalice'	Adelaide Orchids	3 pts
	F.C. Puddle	Mr. & Mrs.J.Hoffner	2 pts
	Whitemoor 'Norriton'	Adelaide Orchids	1 pt
Species	Paph. 'barbatum'	Adelaide Orchids	3 pts
	" 'sukhakutii	" "	2 pts
	Stenoglottis 'longifolia'	Mr.& Mrs.J.Hoffner	1 pt
Misc.	Onc.'Gardneri' x O.'crispum'	Mr.& Mrs.J.Hoffner	3 pts
Genera	Den.'Linguiforme' x	" " "	2 pts
	D.'teretifolium'		

NOVICE SECTION

Cymbidium	Jill (pumilum x MIRETTA)	Mr. & Mrs.L.Carr	3 pts
Cattleya	Susan Kesuka x 'aclandiae'	" " "	3 pts
Misc.Gen.	Acianthus exsertus	Mr. R. Hargreaves	3 pts

POPULAR VOTES

Orchids	LUNAGRAD X EARLYANA	Mr.& Mrs.R.Gowling	
Indoor Plants	Zygocactus Punctatum	Nick Packard	

After the article about Bark in last month's bulletin, a lot of interest seems to have been aroused in this subject, and Ross Gowling has sent in this short note, with the promise of some further information to follow later.

My Experience with Pine Bark by Ross Gowling

As promised at our last meeting, I will try to enlighten members, as to my experience with Pine Bark "Radiata", for the use in potting media for Cymbidium Culture. For the past five years I have used the above in a potting media for three main reasons.

1. It maintains an even P.H. when kept damp this is most important.
2. Provides excellent drainage so therefore lessens the breakdown of the potting media.
3. If using tap water which is on the Neutral or Alkaline side, light watering of Hydrochloric Acid (1 teaspoon to 4 galls of water) can restore the P.H. quickly especially if Peat Moss is used in conjunction with the bark.

"Treatment of Bark before Use"

To 2 Bags (wheat bags) of Graded Pine Bark add $\frac{3}{4}$ gall. of Blood and Bone, dampen evenly. (Cover with bag or plastic and leave to cure, this mix should generate heat which will last about 7 days, by the end of 14 days, a blue mould should appear, during this period bark should not be disturbed).

The bark is now ready for use to add to other ingredients.

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The following article was sent in by another of our travelling members, our past President, Mr. Les. Poole.

A Day at the Maryborough Orchid Conference as Guests - Les & Neil Poole

It all started when I rang the Secretary to find out when and where their next monthly meeting would be held. I was immediately invited to the quarterly Council Conference meeting the next day, a Saturday. The Conference is made up of a group of Orchid growers from Bunderberg in the north to Caloundra in the South, this includes Nambour, Maroochydore, Gympie and of course Maryborough. These groups of growers met at the Wappa Dam in December 1971 and it was decided to form the Council and ever since then they hold quarterly meetings exchanging places, and make a full day of the proceedings. To start the day they all bench their plants which include Cattleyas, Phalaenopsis, Dendrobiums, Oncidiums and a large range of Aus. Natives, and Vandas exquisite, of course the missing flowers are the Cymbidiums.

A Day at the Maryborough Orchid Conference cont.

At 9.30 a.m. the gathering is called to order for a short meeting to more or less explain the Day's procedure. From 10 a.m. to 12.15 p.m. the time was spent in viewing Orchid collections and during this time six private houses were visited. Each group, I think there were seven of them, moved fairly quickly from place to place. We were fortunate enough to have a Lady escort by name Mrs. Ditchman, a panel Judge and very well conversant with all her Orchids. She and her husband own a very good collection. I must admit we saw some of the best grown Phalaenopsis we have ever seen. Really luscious plants excellent spikes very strong and healthy and some real show bench flowers.

We saw Vandas at least 6 feet high, growing completely out in the open and in full flower. Of course heated houses up here are just not required.

I could ramble on for weeks on the plants we saw, but of course the bulletin is restricted, so will return to the Hall where we were served an excellent Smorkasboard Lunch. On the clearing of the tables, the Hall was set up for the afternoon meeting. First the Maryborough Club opened the meeting and welcomed all clubs with a few addresses. Then the Conference Council meeting took over, and they dealt with the happenings over the past Quarter and made their plans for the next three months. This meeting closed at 3.30 p.m. Before the closing of the meeting I expressed our thanks to the President for the hospitality they had shown to Neil to me. I also gave them greetings from the Orchid Club of South Australia and the South Coast Orchid Club. This was very well received and on closing the meeting, I was surrounded by members seeking information from South Australia. Many had been in Adelaide for the Conference.

Afternoon tea was then served and the plants were judged on the bench. A beautiful white Cattleya was first, and also took out the popular vote.
1st. Cattleya White Henrietta Jasper
2nd. Dendrobium Dora
3rd. Oncidium Niven

From the hall we were escorted to a private home (Very large grounds) where a barbeque was held. Plenty of Queensland steaks and XXXX Beer. The steaks were delicious but the beer, give me South Australian beer every time.

Finally the day included a slide evening out under the stars, perfect nights here for that sort of evening. I hope I have not made this too boring as to us it was an excellent day, and a lot of knowledge gained, all for the cost of \$1 at the barbeque.

The spirit of the members excellent, which makes Orchid growing well worth while. Kind regards to all members at home.

Les & Neil Poole.

Just a footnote, all plants up here are grown in charcoal only. Only the odd pot has charcoal and bark.

Our Winter show is to be held on Tuesday July 8th, I have no information regarding this at the moment, but presume full details will be in the next bulletin. I have obtained some information from Mrs. Ellie Shaw for the Ladies.

WINTER SHOW SCHEDULE

1. Modern arrangement using Orchids.
2. Crescent arrangemnet using Orchids.
3. Wired Corsage using one Orchid.

Judging of the Ladies section will be carried out by Mrs. Iris Hutchins, who is not a member of our club.

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Members are reminded to make full use of our trading table for buying or selling plants. Also the suggestion box and notice board are always available for your use. The library has some excellent books for your perusal, our new librarian is always willing to help you find something to interest you or help you with your problems.

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This month's selection

The seventy-year-old groom and the twenty-five-year-old bride caused raised eyebrows when they checked in at the hotel. Next morning, he came down early into the dining room, and ordered ham and eggs. From his smile and twinkling eyes, it was obvious that he was extremely happy.

After a while the bride came down. Her face was drawn, voice weak, complexion pale. She ordered toast and coffee. The waitress said, "Honey, I don't understand a young bride looking worn out, with an old man for a husband".

"He double-crossed me", replied the young bride. "He told me he had saved up for sixty years - and I thought he was talking about money".