



*May
1998*

*The
South
Coast
Orchid
Club
Inc.
Gazette*

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There will be a Dinner at 6-45pm in the Church prior to the May Meeting . The cost will be \$6 per head. Please advise Helen as soon as possible on 82986689 if you wish to attend.

Next meeting of the South Coast Orchid Club will be held at 8pm on May 12th 1998, at the Calvary Lutheran Church, Windsong Crt, Morphett Vale.

The Guest Speaker will be Peter Chiles from Peter Chiles Orchid Nursery. Peter specializes in Cymbidiums.

Members wishing to show plants are reminded that they need to be benched by 7-45pm. ,with your name beneath the pot, for judging to commence.

All Members can show plants.

The Daytime Group will meet at 2pm. Thursday 14th May 1998 at South Brighton Community Hall, Dover Square Reserve, Broadway, South Brighton. Richard Fishlock will address the Meeting. His topic will be Odontoglossums.

Orchid Spectacular at Collectors Corner

The Club is organising this weekend from the 13th - 16th August, cost \$300 per head for bed, bus & breakfast. Open to anyone.

If you are interested please make sure Lesley on 82934307 has your name

Deposit of \$50 required by 30/4/98.

Murray Bridge Winter Show

Lesley is organising a visit to the Murray Bridge Winter Show and Neutrog on July 12th. Cost is \$15 a head. More details from Lesley. Phone number above.

Show dates.

South Coast 4th - 9th May, Colonnades, Upper Level.

Gawler 2nd - 3rd May, Gawler South Hall

Orchidaceous 20th May, Reception Centre, Cnr August and South Rd, Thebarton

Orchid Club of SA 25th - 30th May, Sefton Plaza

NT Orchid Spectacular 30th - 31st May, Darwin

Winter Orchid Extravaganza 16th - 19th July The Oasis Shopping centre, Broadbeach, Gold Coast Queensland

Willsmore's Begonia Farm was the venue for the 'Meeting' this Month. About 18 Members enjoyed the beautiful Autumn weather and journeyed down to Myponga. The begonias, in a myriad of colours, were a sight to behold.

Members decided that Heaven must be a really beautiful place because of all the tuberous begonias that have gone there, however, some decided to give them another go - this time armed with the knowledge that they like to dry out in-between waterings. If in doubt, leave the watering until the next day. When the tubers are dormant- leave sleeping tubers alone and completely dry, until they start to shoot in Spring.

A good day was had by all.

P.S. The Heaven bit probably applies to Orchids as well!!

AUTUMN SHOW

Members who wish to Show plants at the Autumn Show are reminded that they must be financial Members of the Club.

The Show schedule will be the same as for Monthly Meetings, except, there will be a Grand Champion and Reserve Champion not Divisional winners, 1st and 2nd prize-cards and a Trophy for the Best Cattleya.

Put-in for the Autumn Show is between 9-30 and 12 noon on Sunday the 3rd May. Entry to the area will be down the side of the Tavern. The Show will be on the carpeted area upstairs. (Same as last year).

Plants will be Judged from **12noon**. (A light meal will be provided for helpers). Stewards will be there to assist, in putting in plants and placing in the correct class for Judging, and taking out 5pm Saturday 9th.

There will be only 1 display and this will be arranged by the Committee. Plants will be Judged before being put in the Display.

Members are requested to please bring a container to display any of your plants with pendulous spikes.

Assistance will be required for typing of place cards, accepting plants and assistance to the Judging panels.

If you can help please phone Don , Jane Higgs or Helen.

Dendrobium densiflorum by Jane Higgs

Dendrobium densiflorum originates in Northern India, Burma and Nepal, where it grows in the foothills of the Himalayas. It can be found growing on mossy tree trunks and branches in humid forests between 800 and 1500 metres. It was discovered in the early 19th century by Dr. Nathaniel Wallich and it flowered for the first time in England in Messrs. Loddiges' Nursery in 1830.

Dendrobium densiflorum is a large but compact plant with upright *pseudobulbous stems that can grow up to 50-60cms. with 5 - 7 leaves. The canes have a square cross-section, that is common to only a few Dendrobiums. The plant produces scapes from **nodes along the branches and as the name suggests, (dense or thick with flowers) the inflorescence has 20 - 30 tightly packed flowers per scape. When in full flower, the inflorescence resembles a large bunch of grapes or a ripe pineapple. The individual flowers measure about 4cms and are yellow to orange with a slightly darker fringed labellum. The flower nodes at the tip of the pseudobulbs may continue to produce flowers for some years even if the 'bulbs' are leafless.

This orchid adapts well to cultivation. In temperate areas it will grow well with only minimum protection. It likes warm, humid, conditions in summer, which is the main growing season, and a cool dry rest in winter with minimum temperature around 10c. This rest is necessary to the plant to initiate the flowers, that appear in spring. A good airflow is

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needed and fairly bright light with only 10 - 30% shade. Pot growth is suitable, with potting materials such as bark, charcoal, fern fibre. As this plant grows naturally on trees, good drainage is absolutely essential.

Dendrobium densiflorum has not been used much in hybridising. It was crossed with the species *Dendrobium mohlianum* and produced a plant that bore 5 - 7 small flowers that lasted for 2- 3 weeks. However, this cross produced no pollen so could not breed.

Unlike most *Dendrobiums*, *densiflorum* does not produce any aerial growths or keikis, so propagation is by division only. Divisions of no less than 3 pseudobulbs, still with leaves, are the best. These can be made either by removing the plant from the pot and dividing it or by cutting the rhizome between selected pseudobulbs and leaving the plant in the pot until the following growing season when it can be removed and then easily divided and repotted.

Overall, *Dendrobium densiflorum* is a very beautiful orchid, that has been grown by Australian orchid growers since early this century. It is relatively easy to grow and is definitely worthy of a place in every orchid collection.

*pseudobulbous Having or producing pseudobulbs.

**node A joint on a stem or pseudobulb that normally bears a leaf, a bract or a whorl of leaves

TRAVELLING TO U.K.? extracts from an article by Marion Nesbitt, U.K.

Going to the U.K. in the near future? Well a visit to Badbury Rings, near Wimborne, in Dorset, may well be worth a visit.

This Iron Age hill-fort structure that consists of three circles encloses about 18 acres.

The heart of Dorset consists of an arc of chalk down-land. The arc swings down through Badbury Downs. About 200 species of wildflowers find their home in this area. There are about 13 species of wild orchids growing on the rings or in the near vicinity. Although the chalk or thin alkaline soil may have a lot to do with the large number of species found so does the lack of herbicides, pesticides and fertilisers.

During April the first orchid puts in its appearance. This is the Early Purple orchid (*Orchis mascula*). The Green-winged or Meadow orchids (*Orchis morio*) are the next, these occur in a variety of colours from mauve through pink and white. Greater Twayblades (*Listera ovata*) show their tiny green flowers from early May to mid-July. From mid-May two

more species appear, the cream-coloured *Helleborine* and the honey-coloured spikes of the Bird's nest orchid (*Neottia nidus/avis*). Next the delicate white, cross-shaped flowers of the Greater Butterfly orchid (*Platanthera chlorantha*) flower from mid-May to late June. These flowers are strongly perfumed particularly in the evening. The most common orchid found in Badbury Rings is the Common spotted (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*), whose mauve and pink heads of flowers appear from late May onwards. The Bee orchid (*Ophrys apifera*) thrives of both side of the rings. These self-pollinating orchids have pink sepals that enclose a brown velvet lip. In mid-June to late July the magenta blooms of the Pyramidal orchid (*Anacamptis pyramidalis*) can be seen along with the green blooms of the Frog orchid (*Coeloglossum viride*). The last to bloom is Ladies tresses (*Spiranthes spiralis*). These white spiralling flowers are said to resemble ladies plaited hair.

The success of the wild orchids at Badbury Rings is largely due to the management of National Trust. It is interesting to note that a grazier brings in sheep to graze this area from late September/October until March. This encourages the growth of the finer grasses that are essential for many of the orchids to survive.

When visiting Badbury Rings David Smith, Warden in Charge says. "We ask visitors to take only photographs, and leave only footprints".

Note: trying to give these orchids their botanical name has proved rather difficult, however, Reg Shooter, President of Orchid Club of South Australia has come to my rescue. Thanks Reg. Ed.

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Moss started growing Phallys in 1994, so has only really been growing them 4 years. He was introduced to them by the well known New Zealander Andy Easton. Moss saw Andy's collection, thousands of them, in fact, in the land of the long white cloud. He told Moss there was no market for them in N.Z. (They were using the natural heat from the springs to warm them so there was no expense for heating.) He had a lot of flasks so gave Moss a couple to bring home and that's what started Moss growing Phallys. He now has quite a collection!!

What are the Florist's looking for in Phally's? The majority of the phallys in the florists are white, and big, although Moss has quite a few pinks. The florists use them mainly for weddings.

Moss's phally house has solid walls to the roof, with alternate sheets of fibre-glass, and iron. In summer the roof is covered with 70% shadecloth. This, plus an evaporative cooler, keeps the temperature to below 30C. If there are a lot of small plants in the glass house the winter temperature is kept to around 20C to move them quickly, but it usually gets to down to about 17C. Small plants will definitely grow a lot quicker if grown at the higher temperature. Flowering doesn't seem to matter. The humidity is kept as near as possible to 60 - 70% but on real hot days it may get down to 50%, unless you stand there with a hose. Watering is done every 2nd day in the hot weather but in winter about once a week. That entirely depends on the grade of bark you use. Moss uses 10mm - 15mm size bark because this retains a lot more moisture than if you use a larger bark, and has found it more beneficial. Moss has 5 circulating fans that stay on 24 hours a day and a big Rinnai gas heater whose fan runs on a constant basis. Moss reckons that as the hot air rises from the heater the other fans push the heat back down.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

How do you control oxalis once it gets in the orchid pot? No herbicide has been cleared for use on orchids. You've really no choice but to weed by hand **and keep at it.** WWW

What do you do with the keikis (baby plants) that sometimes appear on Phalaenopsis spikes or on old Dendrobium canes? Once the roots have developed they can be removed from the plant and potted in a fine, but well-drained potting mix. WWW

Orchid flowers are zygomorphic, please explain.

Zygomorphic means capable of being divided into symmetrical halves in one plane only (usually anterior-posterior).

I've heard people who 'breed' orchids talking about protocorms. What are they? The first growth, a tuber-like body, producing by a germinating orchid seed, prior to the production of leaves, roots, etc.

Further to the note re Lawn Bombs in last months Gazette: Sprinkle over potting mix, lightly stir in or lightly water to control ants, slaters, earwigs etc. as per directions on pack. Does not seem to affect the orchids and does work. W. Clark

Do you have trouble with botrytis? This is the tiny black spots that form on your flowers, especially in warm humid weather. Mix 1 cup of bleach (Sno White) with 5 litres of water and spray all over the orchids, orchid house and floors. If problem persists, repeat at fortnightly intervals. Ross Staines

North Coast Orchid Society,
Nambour, Qld.

What is Bigamy? Little Amy grown up.

APRIL MONTHLY FLORAL COMPETITION

SECOND DIVISION

Aust. Nat. Epi. Hybrid	**Note Name Den. Graham Hewitt x Gai-Ellen	W. & R. Clark	3
Inter. Cymbidium	Chog Arkaroola x Peter Pan	? M. Baulderstone	3 2
Mini. Cymbidium	Mini Mint	N. Woodend	3
Standard Cattleya	**Note Name Blc. Gliding Star Lc. Luzcleta x Blc. Golden Triangle	J. & P. Beasley	3 2
Cluster Cattleya	C. Portiata 'Mel'	J. & P. Beasley	3
Nov. Cluster Cattleya	C. Chocolate Drop x self C. Chocolate Drop x self C. Valentine Day	J. Dudley J. Dudley M. Baulderstone	3 2 1
Miscellaneous	Epi. Boundii Epi. Boundii Epi. Orange	W. & R. Clark M. Smith N. Gitsham	3 2 1
Species Paphiopedalum	<i>insigne</i>	J. & P. Beasley	3
Odont/Oncidium	<i>Onc. lawrenceanum</i> x <i>Onc. kramerianum</i>	J. & P. Beasley	3
Alliance	Onc. (Broken Hill x Mem. Athol Bell) Onc. Gower Ramsey	J. & P. Beasley J. & P. Beasley	2 1
Vandaceous	Ascda. Peggy Foo	J. & P. Beasley	3
Zygopetalum	Z. Titanic Z. (Blue Lake x Grand Prix)	M. Baulderstone N. Woodend	3 2

FLOWER OF THE DIVISION

Cattleya Chocolate Drop grown by John Dudley



Zygopetalum Titanic, a hybrid between
B.G. White and John Banks.

OPEN DIVISION

Aust. Nat. Epi: Species	<i>Den. cucumerinum</i>	R. & B. Anderson	3
	<i>Den. bowmanii</i>	R. & B. Anderson	2
Aust. Nat. Terr: Species	<i>Ptst. truncata</i>	D. Biebrick	3
	<i>Ptst. obtusa</i>	M. Tiggeman	2
	<i>Ptst. obtusa</i>	M. Tiggeman	1
Aust. Nat. Terr: Hybrid	Ptst. x Furcillata	D. Biebrick	3
Inter. Cymbidium	(Arkaroola x Peter Pan) 'Bronze Leopard'	H. Gerber	3
	(Arkaroola x Peter Pan) 'Irma'	H. Gerber	2
	Mini Lady 'Sweet Tina'	H. Gerber	1
Mini. Cymbidium	Minuet	M. Tiggeman	3
Std. Cattleya	Blc. Mu's Delight 'Udom'	R. & B. Wilson	3
	Lc. Antonetia Mahan 'Waka'	R. & B. Wilson	2
	Blc. Erin Kobayashi	C. & H. Edwards	1
Cluster Cattleya	C. Kew	R. Moore	3
	C. Fitz Eugene Dixon	C. & H. Edwards	2
	C. Kew	A. DeLonno	1
Nov. Cluster Cattleya	C. Valentine Day	R. & B. Wilson	3
Cocktail Cattleya	Sc. Beaufort 'Elmwood'	R. & I. Parish	3
Other Laeliinae	Ctna. Hunabu Fairly Flare	R. & B. Anderson	3
Novelty Paphiopedilum	Papa Robe	R. & I. Parish	3
	<i>venustum x insigne</i>	P. & G. Flavel	2
	Mem. Bill Farquharson	R. & I. Parish	1
Species Paphiopedilum	<i>spicerianum</i>	P. & G. Flavel	3
	<i>barbigerum</i>	R. & I. Parish	2
Odont/Oncidium Alliance	McIna. Pagan Lovesong 'Ruby Charles'	P. & G. Flavel	3
	Odnt. Marie Elle	R. Moore	2
	Milt. Charles Fitch	R. & I. Parish	1
Species	<i>Epi. ciliare</i>	R. & B. Wilson	3
	<i>C. bicolor</i> 'John Seidel'	R. & I. Parish	2
Vandaceous	Mkra. Chark Kuran 'Ruby'	R. & B. Anderson	3
Zygopetalum Alliance	Z. Titanic	A. DeLonno	3
	Z. Titanic	R. Moore	2
	Z. Blue Eyes x Titanic	R. & I. Parish	1

FLOWER OF THE DIVISION:

Paphiopedilum spicerianum grown by Peter & Geraldine Flavel

FIRST DIVISION

Aust.Nat.Epi:Hybrid	Den. Rays Dream	B. Fisher	3
	Sarco. Pink Blossom	B. Fisher	2
	<i>I'm a just a little Aussie native As small as small can be, And though I'm small to others, I am big for me.</i>	North Coast Orchid Society, Nambour, Qld.	
Std. Cattleya	Blc. George King 'Serendipity'	D.& I. Attenborough	3
	Bc. Languedoc	H. & B. Viney	2
Nov. Cluster Cattleya	C. Minerva	L. Gunn	3
	Lc. Mini Purple x Lc. Eva Voelkers	D. & J. Higgs	2
Cocktail Cattleya	Blc. Fantasy Maker 'H&R'	H. Herrmann	3
	** Note Name Lc. Mari's Song	H. Herrmann	2
Std. Paphiopedilum	Harwin x Winston Churchill	H. Herrmann	3
Nov. Paphiopedilum	Euryale x Pop Monkhouse	H. Herrmann	3
	<i>Meon x purpuratum</i>	H. Herrmann	2
Odont/Oncidium	Hwra. Mini Primi	H. Herrmann	3
Alliance			
Species	<i>Sngl. longifolium</i>	B. Fisher	3
	<i>Lembo. bictoniense</i>	R. Pankoke	2
Zygopetalum	Zgna.(Kiwi Choice x Dynamo)	B. Fisher	3

FLOWER OF THE DIVISION & OF THE NIGHT:

Blc. George King 'Serendipity' grown by Denise & Ian Attenborough

Blc. GEORGE KING

This beautiful standard Cattleya was registered back in 1970 by Mr George A. King of California, USA. It's parents are Blc. Buttercup and the famous C. Bob Betts.

Denise and Ian's plant of Blc. George King 'Serendipity' AM/AOS had 3 round, flat blooms on a strong stem that was unsupported. The flowers were an unusual salmon colour with yellow and peach in the lip. Ian tells me "it is grown in the shadehouse with all the other stuff".

Sc. BEAUFORT

Hope you noticed the gorgeous little Cattleya flower on the Open Division bench. This famous miniature clone of bright yellow, with the tiniest tip of red on the lip, was Sc. Beaufort 'Elmwood' HCC/AOS grown by Ron and Irene Parish. The flower has very good shape, heavy substance and may flower several times a year. It is a primary hybrid, i.e. two species crossed. The species are *Soph. coccinea* and *Cattleya luteola*. Sc. Beaufort has been used considerably in the breeding of many of our smaller Cattleyas.

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