



April
2004

The South Coast Orchid Club Inc. Gazette

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HAPPY VALLEY

MARION

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THE NEXT MEETING of the South Coast Orchid Club will be held at 8pm on the 13th April 2004 at St Bernadette's Hall, St Mary's. One membership fee covers all three groups in our Club.

Guest Speaker: Graham Zerbe will speak on 'Display Judging'.

BEGINNER'S CLASS. 7.30pm before the main meeting.

Gerald Voskamp will speak on 'Preparing for Shows'. Now is your chance to have all those questions ready.

DAYTIME At South Brighton Community Hall, Dover Square, Broadway, South Brighton Thursday 15th April 2004 at 2pm. Guest speaker: Graham Morris on Cymbidiums.

SPECIES GROUP Monday 5th April 2004 at 8pm. South Brighton Community Hall, Dover Square, Broadway, South Brighton.

THANKYOU Moss Bray for last months raffle plants.

RAFFLE PLANTS for April donated by Gordon Brooks Orchids.

LUCKY NAME BADGE Make sure you wear your name badge. You may win a prize!!

BIRTHDAY DRAW: Please ring the secretary with the month of your birthday

AUTUMN SHOW

Show Dates: Monday 3rd May to Saturday 8th May at The Colonnades Shopping Centre. Take out at 4pm. See page 2 for more details

MONTHLY ROSTERS

Supper: S Steele, H and D Alsop

Computer: M Harper

Hostess: Three required to look after new members

Judging Panel: R Pankoke T & M Chance N Woodend I Attenborough J Gay & B Bower

Have an opinion or something to say

contact the Editor Ron Parish

Ph 08 8298 4118 **E-mail** vcs@ihug.com.au

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 Thursday following the Committee meeting.

2004 Club meeting dates

May

3 Species group
11 Main Group Colin Jennings on Award Judging
13 Daytime Group Dave & Pat Harmer

June

7 Species group
8 Main Group Tom Burian on breeding
10 Daytime Group Ron Parish

July

5 Species group
13 Main Group Ian Kilpatrick on Struggling with Cats
15 Daytime Group

August

2 Species group
10 Main Group David Pettafore
12 Daytime Group

September

6 Species group
14 Main Group Speaker from S.A.R.D.I.
16 Daytime Group

October

4 Species group
12 Main Dave Harmer on Oncidiums
14 Daytime Group

November

1 Species group
9 Main Trevor Jacob
11 Daytime Group

December

6 Species group
14 Main
16 Daytime Group

AUTUMN SHOW

Judging will be at the South Brighton Hall, Dover Square, South Brighton, Sunday May 2nd at 9.30am. The Hall will be open from 8.30am to receive plants for judging.

Trading Table: Monday 3 May Please take plants to the Colonnades Shopping Centre from 8.45am onwards. When buds are not open, please write the colour of the flower on the rear of the price ticket or on an ice-cream stick and place in the side of the pot. Plant labels and plant list available at meeting.

Species group

The first official meeting for the year produced some fine specimens of several different species for us to appreciate

The stand out plant was *Vandopsis lissochiloides* owned by Dave & Pat Harmer, the stem was so tall we almost had cut flowers when Pat nearly put it through the ceiling fan.

Other very interesting variations of *Dtps. Pulcherrima* were also displayed.

The meeting finished around 9.15pm with the traditional tea/coffee and a bickie.



Dtps. pulcherrima



Vandopsis lissochiloides

WINTER AND SPRING SHOWS

The venue for the Winter Show is the Pasadena Foodland Shopping Centre on Five Ash Drive. Show dates are Sunday 25th July to Saturday 31st of July. Take out time is 4pm. Judging will take place at Hamilton Secondary School, 815 Marion Road Mitchell Park on Saturday 24th July. Time to be advised.

The Spring Show is at the same venue.

Dates are: Judging Sat 18th September, show Sunday 19th Sept to 25th Sept, take out 4pm.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Senior Vice president: M Baulderstone

Junior Vice President: John Robinson

Members: Dorothy Carassai, Hank Van Leuveran, Hazel Alsop, Des Alsop.

Relieving Registrar of Judges: Gordon Brooks

Editor: Ron Parish

If you are seeking help, ask a committee member.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Autumn, what a relief after a long hot summer.

Our A.G. M. was well attended, 53 members were present. Welcome to the new members of our committee and a big thank you to the rest of the committee for their on-going commitment.

S.C.O.C. have a new patron, Syd Monkhouse. Thank you Syd for accepting this position. Syd and Shirley were at the very first meeting of the S.C.O.C. in July 1965 at Victor Harbour. Syd, Shirley and their children were proprietors of Adelaide Orchids at O'Halloran Hill for many years. Amongst his many ventures Syd was; President of OCSA; was involved in hybridising of standard and intermediate Cymbidiums and other genera; was a successful exhibitor with many awards and travelled world-wide to many orchid conferences (to name just a few of his activities).

Russell Job gave a very interesting slide and talk programme. He is a knowledgeable person with a true and keen love of orchids. Thank you Russell, we all learned from your interesting presentation and in particular we learnt a lot about how to check our feeding programme. Russell has been to all parts of the world, especially South America, finding and photographing orchids in their natural state. Our junior member, Daniel Lutz, presented Russell with a thank-you gift.

I hope the members enjoy the changes in the Beginner's Panel. You will certainly get a lot of ideas! Graham Morris is always willing to help the growers whilst Gerald Voskamp will show you how to win prizes. Talking about winners, congratulations to Dorothy Carassai, Terri Rees and John Robinson who are now first division growers.

Please make 2004 a challenge to show your plants. We need second division to bring along their plants and I'm sure that Terri, John and Dorothy will be happy to demonstrate how to show plants to their best potential. Believe me, two years ago, they didn't believe they could grow plants of such quality, but with good culture and presentation they are winners. Take the challenge for 2004; there could be a Grand Champion in your back yard.

"Autumn Time - Exciting Time"

Now the heat has gone, Autumn is arguably the most enjoyable time of the year with cooler days and pleasant evenings. The flower spikes are growing well for the forthcoming shows and trading table sales. We expect to see some exciting seedlings and well-grown clones.

We are very lucky once again, to have the Colonnades Shopping Centre for our autumn show. (*Refer page 1, you will see times*). Flowers for judging need to go to Dover Square Hall in South Brighton and other plants to be exhibited but not judged should be at the Colonnades by 8.30am. Trading table plants will be accepted from Monday, 8.45am onwards. When plants are in bud, please provide ice cream sticks with the colour of the flower. In this way your plant will sell more readily.

Good growing, Regards Geoff

REPORT FROM THE DAYTIME GROUP

We had a group of 24 enthusiastic orchid lovers who, I think, had a great afternoon listening to John Gay speaking on Cattleyas. He shared a lot of 'do's and don'ts' with us and I'm sure we all learned something. His potting demo was also very interesting and informative. Thank you once again John and Bev for making the long trip down from Murray Bridge.

We had 8 lovely plants benched. Geraldine Flavel's cat 'C. Kew' won by popular vote.

Second was Bill Clarke's 'Miltonia Clowesii' and third was Norm Gitsham's

'C. Summer Star'. Well done everyone. They were all lovely flowers and well grown. Thank you to all the other people who brought in plants. It's lovely to see the amount of show flowers expanding in number.

Thank you to Moss, Ron, John and Geoff for the raffle plants and thanks to all in attendance for clearing up and putting away.

Bye, Dorothy.

Flower of the Division
 Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'
 Grown By Peter & Geraldine Flavel



Open Division

Points Awarded		Ref. No.
Cymbidium < 60mm (all colours)		
44	Cym. Minuet	Malcolm Tiggeman (465) 3
45	Cym. Golden Elf	Malcolm Tiggeman (465) 2
Dendrobium (not Aust native) hybrid		
58	Den. Pixie Princess 'H & R'	Peter & Geraldine Flavel (487) 3
Laeliinae Non Standard Cluster		
49	C. Valentine Day 'Chloe'	Peter & Geraldine Flavel (487) 3
50	C. Valentine Day 'Belinda'	Don S Biebrick (103) 2
51	C. Valentine Day 'Lisa'	Don S Biebrick (103) 1
Laeliinae Non Standard Other		
52	C. (Summer Star x forbesii)	Don S Biebrick (103) 3
53	Lc. Harri-anceps	Don S Biebrick (103) 2
54	C. Browniae 'Val'	Hank & Erna Van Leuveren (178) 1
Laeliinae species		
57	B. flagellaris	Richard & Beryl Wilson (321) 3
73	Enc. radiata	Gerald Voskamp (1650) 2
Laeliinae Standard > 100MM		
62	Blc Samba Splendor	Richard & Beryl Wilson (321) 3
63	Lc. Ovation 'Richard'	Richard & Beryl Wilson (321) 2
64	Lc. Irene Finney x C. walkeriana 'Alba'	Bev & John Gay (65) 1
Laeliinae Standard Cluster		
65	C. Kew	Peter & Geraldine Flavel (487) 3
66	C. Browniae 'Riga'	Tony Deionno (24) 2
Oncidiinae hybrid		
67	Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'	Peter & Geraldine Flavel (487) 3
68	Brs. Rex	Peter & Geraldine Flavel (487) 2
69	Milt. Goodale Moir 'Golden Wonder'	Don S Biebrick (103) 1
Paphiopedilum Novelty		
70	Paph. Henrietta Fujiwara v. alba	Ron & Irene Parish (477) 3
71	Paph. Chouvetii 'Alex Ann'	Bev & John Gay (65) 2

Best Flower of First Division
 Milt. Goodale Moir 'Golden Wonder'
 Grown by Terri Rees



First Division

Laeliinae Non Standard Cluster

40 Lc. Valentine Day 'Belinda' John Robinson (1448) 3

Laeliinae species

41 Enc. cochleata Suzanne Willcox (1481) 3

Oncidiinae species

42 Ross. grande Terri Rees (50) 3

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - hybrid

43 Milt. Goodale Moir 'Golden Wonder' Terri Rees (50) 3

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - specimen

48 Milt. Goodale Moir 'Golden Wonder' Terri Rees (50) 3

Phalaenopsis species

47 Phal. pallens Norman Woodend (1525) 3

Best Flower of Second Division

C. Valentine Day 'Susie'

Grown by Bob Cross



Second Division

Laeliinae Non Standard Cluster

55 C. Valentine Day 'Susie' Bob Cross (227) 3

Laeliinae Non Standard Other

56 C. (Summer Star x forbesii) Norm Gitsham (414) 3

Laeliinae species

59 Epd. ciliare Bob Cross (227) 3

60 Enc. radiata Ruth & Gunter Eckhard (436) 2

61 Enc. radiata Ruth & Gunter Eckhard (436) 1

Seen at your last Meeting

Epidendrum ciliare: The family of *Epidendrum* are usually divided into two groups. The first is the 'Reed-stem' type (having no bulbs); these are the tall bamboo appearing plants with a cluster of colourful flowers flowering progressively over several months. The other type is the pseudo-bulb type and you could be fooled into thinking that this plant looks exactly like a *Cattleya*. Well it does. A lot of these were transferred from *Epidendrum* to *Cattleya* by the experts and for some reason possibly the flower shape this one is still known as an *Epidendrum*. This is a common species in Mexico, Central America and the West Indies and is mainly found growing on rocks often in the full sun at low altitudes. Without a flower sheath the raceme is produced from the apex of the bulb with 3 to 5 perfumed flowers, starry in appearance of a lime-green colour with the intriguing white 'hairy' labellum. Worthy of having in any collection as it flowers several times a year. This plant was very well grown and presented by ?



CULTURAL HINTS

Cymbidiums

Spikes are showing on quite a few plants now. Stake them early to get the presentation you desire. If you've already fertilized with a slow release product, foliar feeding will keep them moving along. Repot any that escaped you in spring.

Cattleyas

Many are in sheath or bud so take care with the watering. Water early in the day to avoid water left on the plants when the temperature drops. As the weather cools so does the need to water as often.

Australian Natives

Most are growing strongly now so keep the fertilize (Weak) up to them. Water depending on the weather.

Phalaenopsis

Get the last of the repotting done before the cooler months and before plants start to spike. Water early in the day.

Paphiopedilums

Water early in the day to allow water to dry from the axis of the plant. Watch for buds.



**New Members : Congratulations to
Anthea Trevorrow(The better half of Dennis)**

NOEL D OLIVER
Australian Native Mericlones
Just Arrived \$8.00 each
Jesmond Sparkler, Zip, Zipalong, Cobber violet/
gold, Lavender/Lime, Yes Please, Bridal Blush,
Victorian Pride,
Kingianum Big Foot N.R.F.

Phone 0884434945 Mobile 0418854034

Edible Orchids

As many of you are aware quite a few of our orchids have had other uses besides floral arrangements.

Dendrobium bigibbum (are you serious???) ed), the Cooktown Orchid, was used by aboriginals of northern cape York Peninsular. The bark was roasted to produce yellow strips, these were used to decorate their weapons and domestic implements. The women used the strips to make chair work belts for the men and cross shoulder bands for themselves. (Lawler, 1984)

Dendrobium canaliculatum was also used by the aboriginal people, this time for food. The pseudobulbs were edible when stripped of the old leaves and baked. (Lawler, 1984)

Dendrobium discolor was used for weapons and medical purposes.

Another orchid we often use, without even thinking of it being an orchid, is vanilla. The Aztec Indians in Mexico discovered as early as the 16th century that the seemingly incredible fruit or beans of a tropical orchid, when cured by months of heat and humidity, acquired an exotic aroma. Not only was vanilla considered a wonderful flavouring for foods and beverages but from the 16th to the 19th centuries it was considered to be an aphrodisiac and to have therapeutic values, good for everything from aiding digestion and preventing headaches to counteracting poisons and bites.

In 1518, while the Spanish Conquistador Cortez was seeking the treasures of the New World, he observed the Emperor Montezuma enjoying a royal beverage of vanilla scented chocolate. He was so impressed by this kingly drink that when he and his men returned they brought bags of cocoa and vanilla along with the gold, silver and jewels of Montezuma's fallen empire. Within half a century after Cortez made his discovery, Spanish factories were preparing vanilla flavoured chocolate and for some time Europeans continued to use vanilla only in combination with the cocoa bean.

In 1602 however, vanilla began to be used as a flavouring on its own at the suggestion of Queen Elizabeth's apothecary, Hugh Morgan.

Since then, vanilla has soared in popularity making it far more popular than chocolate or any other flavour known before or since. For more than 300 years after its discovery vanilla was produced only in its native Mexico. Plantings were tried in many countries but the delicate orchid never bore fruit. The mystery was not solved until 1836 when a Belgian named Charles Morren found that common insects cannot pollinate the vanilla orchid. He observed that a tiny bee, the Melipone, that is found only in the vanilla districts of Mexico is uniquely equipped to fertilise the plant. The bee did not thrive outside Mexico so Morren developed a method of hand pollinating the vanilla blossoms. Shortly after Morren's discovery, the French started to cultivate vanilla on many of their islands in the Indian Ocean, French Oceania and the East and West Indies. The Dutch planted it in Indonesia and the British in Southern India. Eventually the French took vanilla to Reunion, an island off Madagascar's coast. There a former slave named Edmund Albius perfected a simple method of manual pollination that is still used today. This was the impetus of major commercial cultivation in the Indian Ocean area.

Scientists specialising in biotechnology have been working for several years with vanilla plants to improve and optimise the vanilla flavour. They use tissue culture techniques to propagate vanilla cells with desirable flavour characteristics. There are several varieties of vanilla but *vanilla planifolia* is the primary species for commerce.

It grows very well in the Bundaberg area of Queensland where one mature vine can produce 10kg of vanilla beans per annum. Approximately 5,000 vines can be grown per acre.



Vanilla seed pods (Beans)

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

Geoff Spear

Gordon Brooks

Graham Morris (Valley Orchids)

Jim Shaughnessy

John Nicholls

Lesley Gunn

Moss Bray (Sims Orchids)

Noel Oliver

Norm Woodend

Pasadena Foodland

Richard Fishlock

Robyn Pope

Ron Parish

Ted & Marjorie Chance



If unclaimed please return to
P.O. box 314 Oaklands Park S.A. 5046
