



THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SA INC.

Gazette

May 2025

Patron: Coralie Hills FAOC
President: Michael Willoughby

AT A GLANCE

The May General Meeting of the South Coast Orchid Club will be held on Wednesday 7th May 2025 at 8.00 pm. at the Marion-Warradale Uniting Church Hall, Corner of Township Road and Church Crescent. Our Guest Speaker will be Glenn Heylen talking about General Pest Control for Cymbidiums.



LEARNERS' GROUP: There will be a Learners' Group Meeting at the May Meeting at 7.15pm. All members are welcome to attend. Bring your problems / plants for discussion.

JUDGING: Please have your plants benched by 7.40pm so Judging can commence at 7.50pm. If you are running late due to work commitments please phone Phil on 0438 891 612.

DAYTIME CHAPTER: The next meeting will be held on Thursday 8th May 2025 at 2.00pm at the Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton. Our Guest Speaker will be Roger Herraman speaking on Easy to Grow Orchids.

SOUTHERN REGION: The next meeting will be Sunday 18th May 2025 2.00 pm at Carrickalinga House, Victor Harbor. Guest Speaker will be Kevin Western presenting Deflasking Orchids a Practical Demonstration. Learners Group at 1.15pm

AUTUMN SHOW: Thursday (Put In) 8th May to Saturday 10th May 2025 at the Seaford Shopping Centre. Details are provided on page 5 of this Gazette.

LUCKY NAME BADGE: Make sure you wear your Name Badge to meetings, you may win a prize.

PUBLIC LIABILITY: Under Insurance Guidelines all members and Committee attending any function or meeting held by the Club must sign and print your name in an Attendance Book.

DEADLINES FOR NEXT GAZETTES
25 May and 25 June

Website: <http://www.scocsa.net>
E-Mail: scocsa@outlook.com
Address: PO Box 1060, Flagstaff Hill SA 5159
ABN 83 245 384 076





YOUR COMMITTEE FOR 2025

PRESIDENT:	Michael Willoughby	0479 162 527
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT:	Alan Miller	
TREASURER:	Anne Steer	0418 840 427
SECRETARY:	Graham Smith	0428 818 586
COMMITTEE:	Oui Ju	
	Richard Crinion	
	Marilyn Buckerfield	
	Phil Steer	
	Carolyn Ponsana	
	Malcolm Mangelsdorf	

NON COMMITTEE POSITIONS:

Registrar	Phil Steer	0438 891 612
Editor	Christine Robertson	0438 363 940
Photographer	Neil Cooper	
Convenor S. R. Group	Chris Heysen	0419 386 769
Convenors Daytime Chapter	Alan Miller	0434 052 676
Convenor Main Learners Group	Graham Smith	

LIFE MEMBERS

* denotes Member who has passed away.

1978 Dulcie Grave *	1986 Harry Viney *	2009 Don Biebrick *
1978 Leora Harvey	1986 John Nicholls *	2009 Henk Van Leuveren *
1978 L. & H. Poole *	1989 Helen Edwards	2010 Dorothy Carassai
1978 Ellie Shaw *	1990 Dr, Keith Northcote *	2011 John and Bev Gay*
1979 Syd Monkhouse	2003 Norman Gitsham *	2012 Noel Oliver *
1979 Bernie Hanson *	2005 Merve Steele *	2015 Lesley Fenton
1981 Lois Hanson *	2005 Shirley Steele *	2015 Rod McRedmond
1981 John Leeder*	Circa Tony and Toshy Deonno *	2018 Kevin Western
1985 Brenda Lynch	2007 Ron and Irene Parish	2020 Malcolm Mangelsdorf
1985 Bubs Gready *	2007 Murray Baulderstone *	2021 Donna Meeuwssen
	2008 Geoff and Lucy Spear	2025 Michael Willoughby

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Subscriptions for 2025 are now due. There will be no increase in subscriptions for 2025. We do value your membership and seeing you at meetings each month.

RATES – One membership covers all groups

Family Membership	\$38.00
Single Membership	\$30.00
Junior Membership	\$22.00

Rural and Interstate Membership

Family Membership	\$34.00
Single Membership	\$28.00

Account Details: BankSA Glenelg. BSB: 105-145
(Use your grower number for Reference)

Account No.: 545457040



President's Message

The Show Season is upon us yet again, with our Autumn show being held on 9th and 10th May at the Seaford Central Shopping Centre. Put in will be Thursday 8th of May from 5pm, hot on the heels of our monthly meeting (the previous evening). We ask you to bring your flowering plants so as we can put on an appealing display for the public. Also, any of your plants in your collection that are 'extras' can be put on the sales bench for sale.

The South Australian Orchidaceous Society will be holding their 2024 Autumn show at the Western Link Church Hall, Crittenden Road, Findon for one day only on Saturday 17th May, hours 9am - 4pm.

The South Australian Orchid Fair 2024 will be held at the Campbelltown Function Centre, Montacute Road, Rostrevor over the Saturday & Sunday of the June long week-end. More details will be in the Gazette.

Our guest speaker this month will be Glenn Heylen who will help us with General Pest Control in Cymbidium orchids. The Daytime Chapter will welcome Roger Herraman who will enlighten us with what all want, Easy to Grow Orchids. At the Southern Region Meeting Kevin Western will present a practical demonstration on deflasking orchids. Don't be shy if Kevin asks for some help during the demonstration.

In Autumn it is most important to keep the water up to our plants as many genera are still in growth stage and building up reserves for their rest and flowering later in the year, and the warm weather can extend well into April as is evident this year. It is always prudent to place snail bait on your pots to ward off the little critters (albeit not to close to young spikes as the snails/slugs may choose these over the bait). Also place a stake by your flowering spike to protect it from being damaged as it grows. Fertilize your orchids weekly, (a weak solution of fertilizer) and make sure they are all protected from the elements as they still need fresh air around them. Rats can be a problem as they are looking for a source of moisture during this very dry Autumn. They do like to chew into pseudobulbs and also nip off flowering spikes looking for a 'drink'.

Finally lets us think of those members who are sick or in hospital. We wish you a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing you again at Meetings.

Successful growing & showing

Michael Willoughby



Happy Birthday

**GEOFF SPEAR, ANITA BUGDEN,
JOHN HARRIS, ALAN MILLER,
GRAHAM MORRIS, RUTH CREEDY**



Is your name in the Birthday Book ?? Please see **Anne Steer**



ORCHID CALENDAR 2025

MAY MAIN MEETING:

Wednesday 7th May 2025 8.00 pm
Marion-Warradale Uniting Church Hall, Cnr of Township Rd and Church Crescent.
Guest Speaker Glenn Heylen: General Pest Control for Cymbidiums.

DAYTIME CHAPTER

Thursday 8th May 2025 2.00 pm
Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton.
Guest Speaker: Roger Herraman: Easy to Grow Orchids

COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 14th May 2025 7.30 pm
The Southern, South Road, St. Marys

SOUTHERN REGION MEETING

Sunday 18th May 2025 2.00 pm
Carrickalinga House, Victor Harbor
Guest Speaker: Kevin Western: Deflasking orchids - A Practical Demonstration. Learners' Group Meeting at 1.15 pm

AUTUMN SHOW

Thursday (Put In) 8th May to Saturday 10th May 2025
Seaford Shopping Centre

SA ORCHID FAIR

Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th June 2025
Campbelltown Community Centre 172 Montacute Road Rostrevor

VISIT TO JANE & DON HIGGS ORCHID HOUSE

Sunday 29th June 2025 11.30 am onwards.
Visit Jane & Don's Orchid Collection at Myponga and have a club BBQ Lunch. More details in a later Gazette

WINTER SHOW

Friday (Put In) 11th July to Sunday 13th July 2025
Marion-Warradale Uniting Church Hall. Cnr Township Rd and Church Crescent, Marion.

SOUTHERN REGION SHOW

Wednesday (Put In) 20th August to Friday 22nd August 2025
Victor Central Shopping Centre, Victor Harbor

SPRING SHOW

Friday (Put In) 26th September to Sunday 28 September 2025
Marion-Warradale Uniting Church Hall. Cnr Township Rd and Church Crescent, Marion.

EDITORS NOTE

Quite a considerable numbers of our members receive this Gazette in black and white by mail. Others have elected to have the Gazette directly emailed to them. They receive the Gazette in full colour and have the benefit of beautiful photographs of very colourful orchids. They also receive the Gazette up to a week before the mail can deliver it to you others. If you would like to have the colourful version emailed to you send me an email so that I receive your correct email address.

Please don't forget that this is your Gazette. If there is anything you would like to see covered or anything you would like to see changed, please let me know. I especially like photographs to include and details of your successes with your orchids.

You can contact me, **Christine Robertson,**

by: Email: kloval@westnet.com.au
Mobile: 0438 363 940

Phone: (08) 8536 3948
Mail: PO Box 454, Strathalbyn SA 5255

Invitation to Members

A day at the Orchid Farm!

Dear Member,

A cordial invitation is extended to you to come and see some premium orchids and how they are grown in the cooler climes of Myponga in SA.

This is the property of our own Judges, Jane and Don Higgs, who will welcome any interested member and show them how they grow their prized specimens.

This is an event not to be missed if you want some truly practical tips and tricks of the trade.

This will be held on the **29th June 2025 from 11:30 a.m.** onwards. A flyer with all the information will be available at each meeting of the three divisions of the club.

Undercover BBQ lunch, tea and coffee supplied.

AUTUMN SHOW

Friday 9th May to Saturday 10th May 2025
SEAFORD CENTRAL SHOPPING CENTRE

The Committee needs the assistance of the members to volunteer to help on the Trading Table. Sell your surplus plants on the Trading Table, ask Anne for swing tickets and selling sheets.

Reminder: to sell your plants at the Show and to display your plants you must be a financial member and you must have owned your plant for a least 6 months.

PUT IN: Thursday 8th May, 5.00 pm for set up of display area - help is needed.
 Plants for Display and Plants for Trading Table when set up is completed.

TAKE OUT: Saturday 10th May at 5.00 pm.

JUDGING: The plants will be judged in-situ in the display.

Please help make our Autumn Show a success by bringing in all your flowering plants. Ribbons and prize money are back.

MOST IMPORTANT: The Show Marshall will ring any member if for some reason he feels that any plant may be showing signs of distress.

TRADING TABLE: As well as members' plants for sale, we will have a range of Phalaenopsis, Oncidium, and Australian Native Orchids for sale.

AUTUMN SHOW SCHEDULE 2025

CARD CLASSES NOT FOR PROMOTION – CARD ONLY	PROMOTIONAL CLASS	GENERA & DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONS (PRIZE MONEY)
Australian Native. Epiphyte Species. Epiphyte Hybrid. Terrestrial Species. Terrestrial Hybrid. Specimen, Seedling.	Best Australian Native	Champion Australian Native
Cymbidium. Majority of flowers > 90mm. Majority of flowers 60-90mm. Majority of flowers <60mm. Species, Specimen, Seedling.	Best Cymbidium	Champion Cymbidium
Paphiopedilum. Standard. Non Standard. Species, Specimen, Seedling.	Best Paphiopedilum	Champion Paphiopedilum
Laeliinae. Standard >100mm. Standard <100mm. Cluster. Non Standard. Species, Specimen, Seedling.	Best Laeliinae	Champion Laeliinae
Oncidiinae. Oncidium Hybrid <60mm. Oncidium. Hybrid >60mm. Species, Specimen, Seedling.	Best Oncidiinae	Champion Oncidiinae
Zygopetalinae. Zygopetalinae Hybrid. Zygopetalinae Species. Specimen, Seedling.	Best Zygopetalinae	Champion Zygopetalinae
Phalaenopsis. Standard. Non Standard. Species, Seedling.	Best Phalaenopsis	Champion Phalaenopsis
Dendrobium. (other than Aust. Native) Hybrid, Species, Seedling.	Best Dendrobium	Champion Any Other Genus
Vandaeae. Standard. Non Standard. Species, Seedling.	Best Vandaeae	
Any Other Genus. Hybrid. Species, Specimen, Seedling.	Best Any Other Genus	
THE GRAND CHAMPION IS SELECTED FROM GENERA CHAMPIONS		
Trophies :		Champion Seedling
W A Young : Trophy for Grand Champion		Champion Species
H & B Viney : Trophy for Champion Laeliinae		Champion Specimen
P C Loke : Trophy for highest aggregate at 3 Shows		Division Champions

EXHIBITORS' RULES FOR SHOWS

1. All exhibitors must be financial members of the South Coast Orchid Club of South Australia Incorporated, and you must have owned your plant for at least 6 months..
2. Entries are free.
3. Exhibitors are bound by the Constitution, Rules, By-Laws and Special Show Rules of the Club.
4. The opinion of the judges is final and binding and no objections or discussions regarding results will be considered, with one exception, which is an infringement by an Exhibitor of any of the Club's Rules, By-Laws or Show Rules. Any objection in this case must be lodged with the Club Show Marshall/Secretary.
5. The Club accepts no responsibility for any loss, damage or infection suffered by any plant or blooms exhibited.
6. The Club reserves the right to photograph any of the exhibits.
7. In all matters regarding the arrangement and conduct of the show (with exception of judging) the Show Marshall/Secretary is the ruling authority.
8. No plants suspected by the Club Virus adjudicators of being infected with virus will be eligible for competition and such plants will be completely isolated from all other plants.
9. The exhibition areas will be closed during the judging. No exhibitors, the public or members other than the Show Marshall/Secretary, Judges of the Club, Associate Judges and other persons appointed to assist in judging will be allowed to remain in the exhibition area during this period.
10. Non-exhibitors are requested not to congregate in the exhibition area prior to judging so that officials can arrange plants and perform other necessary duties.
11. Plants must be labelled with the coloured labels provided by the Club with the exhibitor's number and name of plant. These are available from the Show Marshall/Secretary or his/her nominee.
12. Exhibitors are to ensure that all labelling be neatly and correctly performed in accordance with the procedure laid down on orchid Nomenclature and Registration.
13. All plants benched for judging at the show must be made available to be in the Club display.
14. All exhibits must be benched by the nominated time on the nominated day for judging. The nominated day and time will be published in the Club Gazette in the month prior to the Show.
15. Exhibits must not be removed before nominated time on the nominated day at the end of the Display. The nominated day and time will be published in the Club Gazette in the month prior to the Show.
16. Exhibitors unable to remove their own plants from the show should provide the person so doing with a letter of authorization.
17. Damage caused in transit to the show should be reported to the Show Marshall/Secretary or Registrar of Judges prior to judging.
18. If, in the opinion of the judges, a plant is not worthy of an award or prize in any specified section, then none shall be given.

PREPARING ORCHIDS FOR SALE

1. Select the plants that you want to let go.
2. Clean all pots. Wipe them over with a damp cloth to remove all white residue or salt from the pots. If these pots have been recycled from somewhere else, please make sure all advertising and price stickers are all cleaned off.
3. Check all stakes and add more if necessary and re-tie.
4. Remove old brown husks from bulbs and remove weeds, snails, scale etc.
5. Remove all dry ends on the leaves and shape to a point.
6. Wipe leaves over with a mixture of milk and water (1 part milk to 10 parts water). Do not overdo the milk by adding extra as the fat in the milk will clog the pores in the leaves which will then yellow off and die.
7. Water all plants 2-3 days before, not on the morning that you are bringing them in. This water really makes a mess on our clothes, tablecloths and the floor.
8. Get plant sales sheets and plant price tags from Treasurer before hand. The sales sheet is a carbonless duplicated sheet, so both sheets are to be used together. Press down firmly on a hard surface to imprint on the second page. The original and duplicated sheets must be lodged with plants. On the top left hand corner of the page, print your name. On the right hand side write in your club member number, Rule a narrow column down the left side of the page. This column is for the plant number 1-30. On the right hand side you need a column a bit wider for the selling price of the plant. The centre section is for the name and colour eg *Cym. Without Peer 'Soft Touch' (pink)*. Be reasonable with the pricing, not greedy. Either you want to sell it or you don't. Take into account the number of spikes and condition of the plant. If you are not sure of pricing, ask some one.
9. Next write your labels. It's a good idea to do both sides of the tag. Your member number goes on the left hand side and the plant number on the right hand side. Circle the plant number. Write your price under these numbers. As you put your tags on the plants, double check that the prices and numbers on the tags match those on your sales sheets.
10. When you bring your plants in, they must be checked off by another person against what you have written on your sheets. You will be given one sheet back along with payment for sales but you may wish to write out another copy for yourself to keep in the meantime. You can help with the checking off by reading out the numbers and price while the person checking checks this Information off against what is on your sheets. If there is a discrepancy, it needs to be attended to and another ticket written out if need be.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ORCHID FAIR 2025

**Campbelltown
Community Centre**
172 Montacute Road,
Rostrevor

Saturday 7th June
9.00 am - 4.00 pm

Sunday 8th June
9.00 am - 4.00 pm



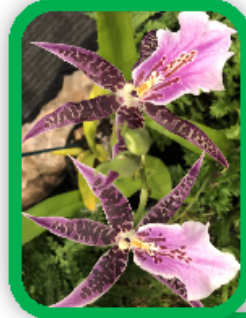
- Orchid Displays by SA's Orchid Clubs
- Raffles of Orchids and related products
- Sales from Leading Orchid Growers from SA and Interstate
- Free advice from experienced growers
- Re-potting demonstrations
- Light Lunches, Devonshire Teas, and Refreshments available

ENTRY by \$7.00 donation

[\$5.00 for Campbelltown Residents]

This includes a free cup of Tea or Coffee

[Free admission on Sunday for members of SAROC Clubs wearing their club badges.]



Proudly supported by the
Campbelltown Council's
Community Grants Program



**THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
ORCHIDACEOUS SOCIETY INC**
PRESENTS FOR ONE-DAY ONLY; THE

AUTUMN SHOW

SATURDAY 17 MAY
9am until 4pm

COME AND SEE OUR LOVELY EXHIBIT OF ORCHIDS ON DISPLAY

**Western Link Church Hall
93 Crittenden Road, Findon**

\$5.00 Entry (per person) includes a complimentary cup of coffee or tea and a biscuit to enjoy.

Orchids available for purchase - a great opportunity to spoil yourself with an orchid of your own or find the perfect gift!

We look forward to seeing you there!
For more information, please contact our President on 0432163803 or Secretary on 0430164808.





2025 AOF Essay Prize

The AOF Essay Prize is an annual writing competition, established with a generous endowment by the Slade family.

There will be three prizes –

1st	Prize	\$350.00
2nd	Prize	\$250.00
3rd	Prize	\$150.00

The Foundation invites all Australian orchid growers to consider the topic for 2025 and submit an entry.

ESSAY TOPIC FOR 2025:

What sparked your interest in orchids?

Were you given a gift of an orchid, did you by chance go to an orchid show, did you go for a walk in the bush one day and notice some fascinating, intricate flowers?

The deadline for receipt of all entries is July 31st 2025

Send your entry:
electronically to aof@australianorchidfoundation.org.au
or AOF Essay Prize P.O. Box 440, Yarra Glen Vic. 3775

Please include your name, address and telephone contact.

Entry Rules:

- This competition is open to Australian residents only.
- The essay will be an original article, not previously published.
- The essay must be no more than 4,000 words, short essays are most welcome.
- The essay is to be in English and typewritten.
- Entries may include art work or images.
- The authors of the essays will remain undisclosed to the judges, whose decision will be final. If in the opinion of the judges, no worthy essays are received, there will be no award that year.
- Non-winning entries will be returned to the sender if requested. These entries may be submitted to the editors of Australian orchid periodicals for publication, with permission from the author.
- The winning essay will be announced at the AGM of the Foundation in October 2025.
- The winning entries will be placed on the AOF web site and maybe published in Australian orchid periodicals.

VIRUS TEST KITS AVAILABLE : The Club now has Virus Test Kits available for sale to our members. They cost \$8.00 They will be available at the meetings.

April Results List



Ref. No.			Points Awarded
Open Division			
Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std			
96	Cym. Morris West 'Tinkerbelle'	Jane & Don Higgs (1302)	3
97	Cym. Osborn	Peter Haltis (442)	2
Cymbidium under 60 Species			
98	Cym. dayanum	Peter Haltis (442)	3
99	Cym. erythrostylum	Ron & Irene Parish (477)	2
Laeliinae - Cluster			
92	Ctt. Bactia 'Grapewax'	Kevin Western (155)	3
Laeliinae - Species			
93	Gur. bowringiana	Ron & Irene Parish (477)	3
94	C. bicolor	Ron & Irene Parish (477)	2
95	Psh. cochleata 'Spice'	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	1
Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm			
91	Rlc. Burdekin Spice	Peter Haltis (442)	3
Oncidiinae - Hybrid > 60mm			
100	Bcd. Gilded Tower 'Mystic Maze'	Jane & Don Higgs (1302)	3
101	Rnc. Pacific Paranoia	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	2
Oncidiinae - Species			
102	Milt. clowesii	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	3
Paphiopedilum - Species			
103	Paph. charlesworthii	Ron & Irene Parish (477)	3
Zygopetalinae - Hybrid			
104	Z. Artur Elle	Jane & Don Higgs (1302)	3
105	Z. Artur Elle	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	2

First Division

Cymbidium under 60 Species

89	Cym dayanum	Beth Stronach (836)	3
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Laeliinae - Cluster

88	Ctt. Browniae 'Riga'	Beth Stronach (836)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

90	Srts. Toowoomba Sparkle	John & Robyn Dunn (600)	3
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Second Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Species

85	Den. Bigibbum	Janet Adams & Gordon Ninnies (1195)	3
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Oncidiinae - Hybrid < 60mm

86	Onc. Sharry Baby	Coral Tillmanns (212)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species

87	Sngl. longifolia	Coral Tillmanns (212)	3
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Seedling of the Night

Cym. erythrostylum
'Magnificum' x Self

Grown By Ron & Irene Parish
Photos Neil Cooper

WINNING PLANTS – APRIL 2025

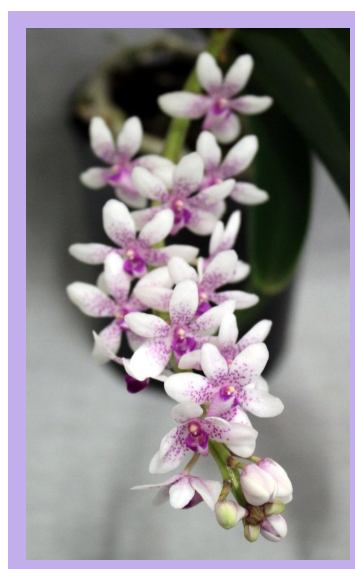
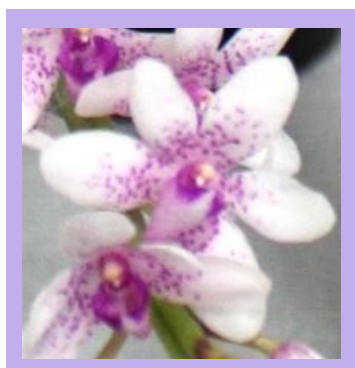


Orchid of Open Division & Plant of the Night

Z. Artur Elle

Grown by Jane & Don Higgs

Photos Neil Cooper



Orchid of First Division

Srts. Toowoomba Sparkle

Grown by John & Robyn Dunn

Photos Neil Cooper



Orchid of Second Division

Den. bigibbum

Grown by Janet Adams & Gordon Ninnes

Photos by Neil Cooper



DAYTIME CHAPTER
Thursday 10th April 2025



Hi Everyone,

16 members attending the Easter themed Daytime Meeting and welcomed back our guest speaker Vicky Cooper and first-time visitor Linda Almond.

Members were intrigued with Vicky's Keiki presentation highlighting the range and ease in establishing and caring for various Keikis. Following the presentation Vicky encouraged members to participate in repotting Keikis from a selection of plants she provided. Many thanks to Phil Steer for his assistance in providing pots and bark. Hopefully members will be judging the results of this workshop in future Plant of the Day displays.

Lucky Name Badge: Peter Berry
Birthday of the Month: Coral Tillmanns

Lucky Seat Number: Josie Ogrowsky

Popular Plant of the Day:
 Ctt. Portia 'Coerulea'
 grown by Richard Wilson



Following the workshop members socialised enjoying the Club provided afternoon tea including hot finger food and hot cross buns. Thank you to Anne Steer for coordinating this event.

Many thanks to Coral and Josie for their assistance and to our generous members providing raffle plants.

Next Meeting : Thursday May 8th - 2.00 pm

Lou Kesting Hall, Off Broadway, South Brighton

Guest Speaker: Roger Herraman sharing his thoughts on the easy way to grow orchids,

Roger will also have a selection of plants available for sale.

Alan Miller

0434 052 676



SOUTHERN REGION MEETING Sunday 20th April 2025

Convenor, Chris Heysen, opened the main meeting at 2:00 pm welcoming the 18 members present and wished everyone a Happy Easter! And welcome to our guest speaker, Roger Herraman. Roger has been coming down to Victor each year for many years and always gives us interesting and useful presentations. However he is now retiring from the “speaking circuit” so this may be the last time.

Apologies: Phil Steer, Marg Yelland, Heather McDonald and Ruth Creedy, Roger Buddle and Di Helier, Graham and Jeanette Smith and Doreen Smith. Phil and Marg are unfortunately both back in hospital – we wish them a speedy recovery.

Guest Speaker: Roger’s presentation was about Australian Native Dendrobium – more specifically the more recent hybrids of hot and cold species that have attempted to bring the best attributes of warm growing species into plants that can be grown cold in our southern climate zones. These have mostly crossed *Den. bigibbum* (the Cooktown orchid) with *Den. speciosum* and other cool growing species. Roger related the history of these crossings and the cultural requirements and then showed us slides of some of the results.

Many thanks Roger for a very interesting presentation – and for all your presentations over the years. Your extensive knowledge of orchids and your willingness to share this has been invaluable to our members for many years.

Lucky Name Badge: Marilyn Jelfs.
Birthday Prize: Chris Heysen

Lucky Door Prize: Dudley Huxtable.

Announcements:

- Autumn Show – refer to details elsewhere in this Newsletter.

The raffle was held as usual and Chris thanked the donors of raffle prizes.

Judging: was carried out by Jane and Don Higgs. **Judges Commentary:** Jane Higgs.

The meeting closed at 3:00pm and was followed by everyone joining in to share a cuppa and a selection of cakes and biscuits.

VIRUS TEST KITS AVAILABLE

The Club now has Virus Test Kits available for sale to our members. They cost \$8.00 They will be available at the meetings.

Chris Heysen 0419 386 769

Next meeting – Sunday May 18th - 2.00pm

Our Guest Speaker will be Kevin Western.

Kevin will be demonstrating how he deflasks orchid seedlings. As he is one of the premier cultivators of both clonal and seedling orchids this should be a very worthwhile demonstration.

April Results List

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

First Division

Laeliinae - Cluster

99 Ctt. Porcia 'Cannizaro' Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140) 3

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

100 Den. Pink Ballerina Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140) 3

101 Den. Ekapol x Jill Valmadre x Bernadette Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140) 2

102 Den. Sarah Louise 'Orchid World' Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140) 1

Second Division

Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std

96 Cym. (Pratabong x insigne) Margaret & Warren Yelland (350) 3

Laeliinae - Non Standard

98 Ctt. Portiata Bob & Robyn Clayton (143) 3

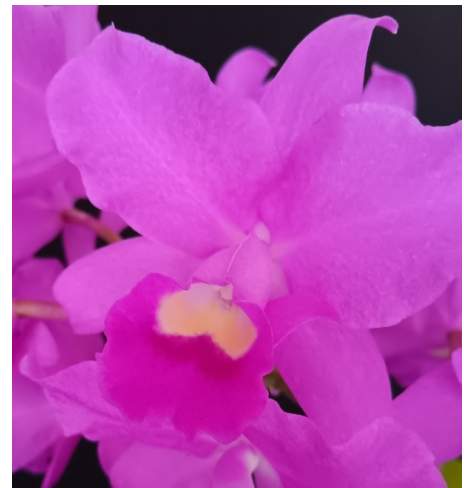
Laeliinae - Standard under 100mm

97 Rlc. Charm x C. Monte Elegante Margaret & Warren Yelland (350) 3

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

95 Den. Sea Marie 'Snow King' Bob & Robyn Clayton (143) 3

WINNING APRIL PLANTS - SOUTHERN REGION



**ORCHID OF FIRST DIVISION
& PLANT OF THE DAY
Ctt. Portia 'Cannizaro'**

Grown By Chris & Lyn Heysen
Photos Jane & Don Higgs



**ORCHID OF SECOND DIVISION
Rlc. Charm 'Maker' x C. Monte Elegante**

Grown by Margaret & Warren Yelland
Photos Jane & Don Higgs

***Dendrobium kingianum*, THE KEIKI MAKER by Brian Milligan**

Undoubtedly the most commonly grown Australian native orchid, at least in the southern states, is *Dendrobium kingianum*. This native of New South Wales and southern Queensland adapts well to Victorian conditions and soon develops into a fine specimen plant. It has the nasty habit of dropping many of its leaves if exposed to frost but it does well with the minimal frost protection of a fibreglass roof in my back garden. The most common flower colour is pink but there is also a white form and the so-called variety *Silcockii*, which is white with a contrasting purplish lip. Selective breeding has now produced cultivars with purplish red and speckled pink flowers.



***Den. kingianum* 'Tegan'
HCC/OSCOV**

The main reason that *Den. kingianum* is so common in cultivation is its propensity to form offset growths, often referred to as keikis, keiki being the Hawaiian word for baby. According to the late Maurie Black, a prominent early NEMOS member who was fanatical about correct spelling and pronunciation, the word should be produced cay-key but I, like most others, say key-key. Keikis develop from the upper leaf nodes and eventually grow roots, at which time they may be removed and re-potted in the same way as seedlings or divisions.

New growers are often pleased to see their plants develop keikis but they should remember that these keikis are being produced at the expense of flowers. Those interested in a good floral display should remove the keikis before they develop, a simple twist of the wrist being sufficient to remove either them or the fully developed keikis. Some cultivars of *Den. kingianum* seem to be much more prone to develop keikis than others. The use of high-nitrogen fertilisers promotes keiki production, and the use of a potassium-rich or balanced fertiliser is therefore recommended (as it is for all native dendrobiums). Plants with poor root systems, the result of old, decayed potting mixes, are also prone to produce keikis, probably as a last-ditch effort to survive.

Keiki formation is not restricted to *Den. kingianum*, many of its hybrids also yielding keikis, although not as prolifically as the parent species. Other dendrobium species, both native and exotic, also produce keikis. My plant of *Dendrobium moorei*, a native of Lord Howe Island, develops keikis occasionally, while that well-known soft-cane dendrobium, *Den. nobile* and its multitude of hybrids, regularly produce keikis, especially if fertilised during winter.

Why is *Dendrobium kingianum* in nature so prone to produce keikis? Is this property a survival strategy designed to enable the plant to survive the catastrophic loss of its root system? In nature *Den. kingianum* grows mainly on rocks, where its roots follow cracks and crevices filled with leaf litter. Most keikis dislodged from the parent plant will simply fall into the same area, although conceivably some may slide down the hillside to a more favourable environment elsewhere. Just another mystery of life, I guess!

As long as the species keeps developing keikis, there will always be a glut of "kingies" on the sales bench. It puzzles me why many members keep propagating inferior forms of the species when so many superior forms, produced by line breeding, are now available. In general, these have larger flowers held on strong, upright stems, sometimes produced two to each node, which leads to an impressive floral display. These cultivars take no more time and effort to grow than many old bush-collected plants that often have weak stems and drooping flowers. Most members, after a little experience, discard their early cymbidiums in favour of newer hybrids, so I suggest you cull your *Dendrobium kingianum* plants, too, in favour of those with superior flowers.

THE CATTLEYA ALLIANCE by Denis Oliver

The term 'Cattleya Alliance' is usually applied to a group of related genera, namely, *Cattleya*, *Guaranthe*, *Brassavola*, *Laelia* and *Rhyncolaelia* all found in Central and South America. They are cultivated extensively as species, primary hybrids and complex hybrids. Some of the many inter-generic hybrids are *Brassocattleya* (abbreviated *Bc*), *Laeliocattleya* (*Lc*), *Cattleanthe* (*Ctt.*), and *Brassolaeliocattleya* (*Blc*).

Though the group as a whole is largely found in tropical areas, some species are cold tolerant, being found at altitudes of 1000 m or higher. Habitat data is quite useful when growing species or primary hybrids but it is more difficult to predict the temperature requirements of some of the complex hybrids. However, there are a few general rules that can be applied, as there are two types of plants in the genus *Cattleya*. One group is bi-foliate, having two (sometimes more) leaves per pseudo-bulb. This group includes *Guarianthe bowringiana*, *Cattleya intermedia*, *Cattleya loddigesii* and *Guarianthe skinneri*, all of which are cold tolerant. The second type of cattleyas is the labiata group. These species have only one leaf per pseudo-bulb, and produce fewer but larger flowers. They are less cold tolerant, requiring a minimum temperature of 10°C. Examples are *C. lueddemanniana*, *C. trianae*, *C. warneri* and *C. warscewiczii*.



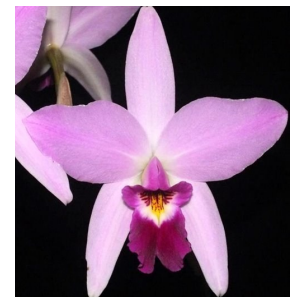
Guaranthe bowringiana



Cattleya intermedia



Cattleya loddigesii



Laelia anceps



Cattleya purpurata

Laelia gouldiana



SOME COOL GROWERS

Laelia species have larger plants, their pseudo-bulbs usually being at least 100 mm tall. Their inflorescences may carry from one to many flowers, which are often large and colourful. Temperature requirements depend on their native habitat but cold-tolerant members include *L. anceps*, and *L. gouldiana*, and *L. pumila* and *L. purpurata* that have been transferred to the Genus *Cattleya*. Both species in the genus *Brassavola* (as used in the Cattleya Alliance) have now been transferred to the genus *Rhyncolaelia*. They are warm growers, requiring a minimum temperature of 10°C, preferably higher. *Rhyncolaelia digbyana* produces a single yellow-green flower with a fringed, cream lip per growth, while the flowers of *R. glauca* are similar but their lips lack fringes.

While some species and their hybrids will grow without heat, better results will usually be obtained at a minimum temperature of at least 5°C. If your plants are grown without heat, take care not water them during cold winter weather. Ultimately, trial and error will tell you where these colourful, perfumed orchids grow best among your orchid collection.

SOME WARMER GROWERS



Cattleya trianae



Cattleya warscewiczii



Cattleya warneri



Cattleya lueddemanniana



Rhyncholaelia digbyana



Rhyncholaelia glauca

All cattleyas are epiphytes, so their roots require access to air. They grow well on mounts or when potted in 15 mm pine bark. Some growers have good success using tightly packed Sphagnum moss as the potting medium. Although I find moss a good medium for cattleyas that have lost their roots, I find that they do better if I transfer them back into pine bark after a new root system has been established. I re-pot in springtime every 2-3 years, using a pot that is just large enough to accommodate the growth anticipated in the following 2-3 years.

The pots may either be suspended or placed on open wire mesh benches. Cattleyas also grow well on mounts, provided care is taken to prevent their roots from becoming excessively dry in hot weather. They like strong light but the leaves will burn in direct sunlight during summer. Provide good air movement with fans or open ventilators. Fertilising is straightforward. I use any of the commercially available orchid fertilisers, applying a weak solution weekly in the growing season but seldom during winter. Cattleyas require regular fertilising during the growing season because this is their main source of nutrients.

Allow the potting mix to become almost dry before watering again. The surface of the mix should become quite dry and the layer beneath just damp before the plant is re-watered. Potting mixes dry out at different rates, depending on the position of the pot in your collection and on the extent of air movement. Small pots dry out more quickly than large pots, and plants in large diameter bark more quickly than those in fine bark, while mounted plants will dry very quickly. Re-pot all your plants in bark of the same size, so as to eliminate this variable. If a potting mix remains wet for too long, it will become waterlogged and the plant's roots will rot. If a plant is being watered regularly, yet still has withered canes, don't continue to water it – check its root system for rot.

Cattleyas often have an untidy growth habit. They sometimes tend to grow sideways, which makes for a scruffy plant and poor flower presentation. In this case give the new canes guidance and support using stakes and ties. Take care not to snap off the new growths, which may be quite brittle. Also support the inflorescences when they emerge from the sheath to ensure the flowers are displayed to their best advantage. Cattleya buds sometimes abort and rot while inside the sheath, either due to a setback caused by a sudden fall in temperature or perhaps by excessive humidity in the sheath. There may be some benefit in peeling back the sheath if you suspect the occurrence of rot.

A stout rhizome links each cattleya pseudo-bulb to its neighbour. The plant may be divided by severing this rhizome at intervals with a razor blade or sterile knife, a process referred to as back-cutting. Make sure that each division consists of at least four pseudo-bulbs. Back-cutting may be carried out when re-potting but it is best to leave the plant another year after back-cutting before transferring the divisions to separate pots.

The main cattleya pests are aphids and scale. Aphids tend to infest the new growths and flowers, while scale insects hide beneath the sheaths surrounding old pseudo-bulbs and under the leaves. Scale may be particularly damaging if not detected early, so remove all old sheaths from the pseudo-bulbs so that the scale insects have fewer places to hide. The usual sprays and techniques may be used to control both pests and diseases.

A few desirable, cool-growing hybrids include *Cattlianthe* Chocolate Drop, *Ctt.* Chit Chat, *Ctt.* Portia, *Ctt.* Hazel Boyd, *Ctt.* Dixie Jewels and *Ctt.* Fitz Eugene Dixon.



Ctt. Chocolate Drop



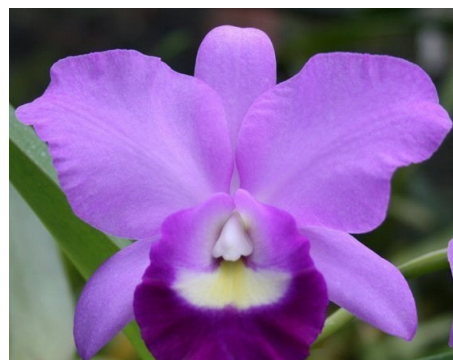
Ctt. Chit Chat



Ctt. Portia



Ctt. Hazel Boyd



Ctt. Fitz Eugene Dixon



Ctt. Dixie Jewels

SOME COOL-GROWING HYBRIDS



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 25 °C with light winds but in general May is the one month where the north westerlies increase and rainfall becomes 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 in 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 is raining.

Also inspect your plants and make adjustments to those that are unstable as we do not 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 do not 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 do not 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 Cyms, Zygoes, Sarcocylus 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 will not 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 strong new growth.

You will find many resting plants bulbs and canes will shrivel, some quite markedly. This is quite normal. Some lose their leaves entirely. For example Catasetums and some Lycastes. 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 nightfall. 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 do not 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



Orchid Culture Notes for May cont...

numbers are out of hand, otherwise learn to observe the damage they cause to the under-sides of the plants leaves and squish them. Soft leaved plants such as *Zygopetalums* and *Phaius* are prone to attack. I have heard that it is 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 will not stick because 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 Cyms 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 they 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 do not damage the new growths that start showing this time of year.

Many flowering plants now needing staking but 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 is 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 *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 give away 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

ORCHID ROOTS AND REST PERIODS by Brian Milligan

What's most important to an orchid – its roots or its leaves? Actually, it all depends on the orchid. Some orchids never have leaves. One example is the Australian native terrestrial *Dipodium roseum*, commonly called the hyacinth orchid because its pink flowers resemble those of the hyacinth. It's often found flowering under trees in the mountains in summer. *Dipodium roseum* and many other saprophytic orchids rely on mycorrhizal fungi growing in

association with tree roots to provide them with all the that they need. Other leafless orchids, such as the epiphytic *Polyrrhiza lindenii* and *Chiloschista lunifera*, are not saprophytic and need to manufacture their own sugars and other components necessary for plant growth. They do so in the same manner as leafed orchids, that is, by photosynthesis from water and carbon dioxide, using the green pigment chlorophyll as catalyst. The only difference is that these leafless orchids carry chlorophyll in their roots, whereas it's present in the leaves of most orchids.

Many orchids have leaves for only part of the year. Common examples in our collections are *Bletilla striata*, *Pleione formosana* and many of our native terrestrial orchids. The first two lose their leaves in autumn, leaving only their tubers to survive the icy winters of their natural habitats. In contrast, greenhoods (*Pterostylis*) and donkey orchids (*Diuris*) lose their leaves in late spring, leaving their tubers underground to survive our hot, dry summers.

Some epiphytic orchids survive stressful times in their native habitats, usually cool dry times, by entering what orchid growers call a rest period. They indicate their intention of entering this phase by gradually extending the protective layer of velamen that normally covers most of the root until the green, actively growing tip is completely encompassed. At this stage the root tips absorb water and nutrients much less efficiently and the plant drastically slows its growth. Flower spikes may continue to grow and buds to open, but the energy for these processes is derived from nutrients already stored in the pseudobulbs. Because orchids absorb little water or nutrients through their roots during the rest period, frequent watering and fertilising at this time is unnecessary and may be harmful.

Common examples of orchids that enter a rest period during winter are *Laelia anceps*, *Oncidium varicosum* and its hybrids, epidendrums and cattleyas. But not all orchids have a rest period during winter; these plants continue to grow, albeit at a reduced rate. Cymbidiums are a prime example. They benefit from continued watering and fertilising during winter, although at a much less frequent rate than in summer.

So, how do you tell which orchids need a rest period during winter from those that don't? It's simply a matter of examining the root tips. If they are green and shiny, the orchid is still growing actively. But if the root tips are no longer shiny and are completely sealed with velamen, then the orchid has entered its rest period and it should be watered much less frequently, perhaps once every two or three weeks. Occasional misting of the foliage of these plants, especially in bright weather, will help to keep them from excessive dehydration.



As spring arrives, these 'resting' orchids will show signs of re-awakening by developing fresh root tips. Sometimes the old roots also develop new branches with shiny green tips. These are signs that you should gradually resume normal watering and fertilising. Because of the importance of active root tips in absorbing water and nutrients, it is vital to the well-being of your orchids that these tips should not be damaged. Ensure that your plants are secure in their pots and use snail bait to kill snails, slugs, slaters and earwigs.**

** Pet owners are warned that most snail baits are poisonous to animals as well as to humans.

RESUPINATION by Brian Milligan

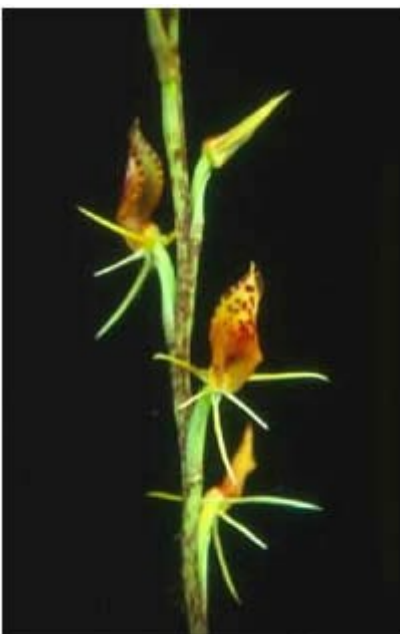
Pronounced re-soup-i-nation, it has nothing to do with getting a second serving of soup at Smorgy's! Resupination is the process by which the flowers of many orchids, as they open, twist so that the lip is orientated below the other floral segments. All of the commonly grown genera (*Cymbidium*, *Dendrobium*, *Phalaenopsis* etc.) have resupinate flowers. Twisting is due to rotation of both the ovary and pedicel.

One of many interesting features of resupination is that the flowers only undergo resupination if it is necessary to orientate themselves so that their lips are lowermost. Thus the flowers on the ascending part of an arching inflorescence undergo resupination, while those on the descending part do not.

Another curious feature is that, as a general rule, the direction of resupination alternates from flower to flower up the inflorescence. For example, if the first flower on the inflorescence twists in a clockwise direction during resupination, then the second one twists in an anti-clockwise direction and so on! Resupination begins to occur as the buds open and is essentially complete by the time the floral segments are fully expanded.

Why are most orchid flowers resupinate? The main theory is that resupination orientates the lip to provide the orchid's pollinator with a convenient landing pad. This theory sounds reasonable, although the American glossy bee *Euglossa cordata* is known to pollinate the flowers of several different *Catasetum* species whether their flowers are resupinate or not.

Most resupinate orchid flowers twist through 180 degrees as they open but the flowers of *Angraecum superbum* rotate through 360 degrees, so that they eventually reach the same orientation as if they were non-resupinate! Orchids with non-resupinate flowers (their lips are uppermost) include *Osmoglossum pulchellum*, all species of the Australian terrestrial genus *Prasophyllum* and some *Satyrium* species.



Cryptostylis javanica



Prasophyllum patens var.
pruniosum



Angraecum superbum

ORCHID CLUBS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA **General Meeting Times**

THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA: In 2024, the Club will meet at the Marion - Warradale Uniting Church Hall, Cnr. Township Road and Church Crescent, Marion. at 8.00p.m. on the first Wednesday of the Month

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: 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.

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ORCHIDACEOUS SOCIETY: Meets at the Plympton Community Centre, 34 Long Street, Plympton 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.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL ORCHID COUNCIL: Represents all clubs in South Australia on the Australian Orchid Council. Meets three or four times a year, at which meetings all clubs are represented by a delegate or a proxy delegate. SAROC conducts the **SA Orchid Fair** in June each year.



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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.**