

# THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB GAZETTE

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MARCH                      ISSUE                      1992:

NEXT MEETING:                      Tuesday 10th March 1992  
Lutheran Church Hall, Windsong Crt, Morphett Vale  
Benching of plants to be completed by 7.45pm  
for judging.  
Meeting begins at 8.00pm.

GUEST SPEAKER:                      Mrs Bev Carpenter will 'take us' to Chiang Mai,  
Thailand, for the 4th Asia Pacific Orchid  
Conference. Bev is a South Coast Orchid Club Judge  
and a member of our Committee.

SUPPER:                                      Please remember to bring a plate of supper to go on  
the Supper Table.

HALL SET-UP:                              Would all willing to assist please arrive by 7pm.

DAY-TIME CHAPTER:                      2pm Thursday 12th March 1992, South Brighton  
Community Hall, Dover Square Reserve, Broadway,  
South Brighton. John and Beverley Gay will discuss  
their experiences at the 4th Asia Pacific Orchid  
Conference in Chiang Mai, Thailand during January  
1992. John is the President of the Murray Bridge and  
District Orchid Club, and a regular judge at South  
Coast.

TRADING TABLE:                      Mr. D. Daykin & Mr B. Nurse will be in charge.

COMMITTEE MEETING:                      Tuesday 17th March 1992, 7.30pm at the South  
Brighton Community Hall.

## DAYTIME CHAPTER by K.H. Northcote

The Day-time Chapter held a most successful 'garden-party' type meeting at the home of the Convenor for their first meeting of 1992. Discussion covered most aspects of growing orchids, especially Cymbidiums, in the backyard situation. The most admired orchid in bloom was C. Valentine Day 'Susie' hotly followed by a King Epidendrum of a nice salmon pink colour. It had been in flower over 2 months and was obviously well past its prime but gained many friends, nonetheless. This meeting was the 49th of the Chapter since its inaugural meeting on Thursday October 15th 1987.

## JUDGES' ROSTER

All available judges should meet at the Judges' Table about 7-50pm. South Coast Judges to set up benches by 7-30pm please.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are reminded that subscriptions are NOW due. PLEASE see the Treasurer as soon as possible.

## RAFFLE PLANTS

Plants for last months raffle were supplied by Adelaide Orchids, Woodcroft.

This months plants will all be cattleyas so don't forget to purchase your raffle tickets.

## BUS TRIP

It is hoped that a bus trip to Murray Bridge can be arranged to take place during August. Keep an eye open for further information.

## OPEN DAY

An 'open day' will be held at the Edwards residence, 33 Oliphant Ave, Marion, Sunday, March 22nd from 2pm to 4pm. Come and see how we manage to grow (& kill) cattleya & miscellaneous orchids.

## S.C.O.C. ACTING PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 1991 by Neil Wolfendale (condensed)

Firstly I would like to say that it has been an unusual year. Not only for myself, taking over the reigns at short notice, but also for our secretary, Diana, and the Club as a whole. The Economy has made a profound impact on the Club, as it has made not only our members but potential new members look long and hard at the way in which they spend their money.

All that aside I am pleased that we all have endeavoured to make the best of what we have and I am confident that 1992 will be a much more rewarding year for S.C.O.C.

In 1991 when I took on this position I had hoped for a much more productive year for all our members, with lots of new things happening. Not everything can happen overnight. Maybe I didn't take into account how long things take to organize, especially considering we only meet one night a month not every week.

However many of the ideas that germinated in 1991 will come to fruition in 1992. For example,

at the earliest opportunity we are commencing a beginners forum. The 'host' will change from month to month and will include Keith Northcote, John Gay, Charlie Edwards and myself.

as we will have a committee member as a full time Social Officer we will see more workshops and bus trips.

added to this are many other ideas already in the melting pot that we hope to see in the coming months.

Now to the many people I would like to thank:

to the committee, with special thanks to Dianna, our Secretary  
to Mark, our retiring Treasurer  
to Helen, our Editor  
to Keith, our Registrar of Judges  
to Barry and Rosalie, who together have broken new ground in publicity for our shows and also being our host and hostess

to John, Betty, Rosalie, Trix and Denis for filling in all the gaps

and finally to Ray, our retiring Show Marshall who has organised our major shows. As Ray is retiring from committee to concentrate on growing his beloved Phalaenopsis I take this opportunity to wish him well and good growing.

Thank you also to all the other members who have helped throughout the year:

to Mary and Will Vaughan for their expertise at the trading table at shows and selling raffle tickets

to our librarians Dorothy Howard and Richard Wilson

to Bill Fisher, John Nicholls, John Gay, Helmut Gerber and others who set-up the trestles

to all who assist Trix with the supply and organization of supper and afternoon teas

to Norm Gitsham our projectionist and audio man

to all the Judges, from our Club and from other Clubs

to the Viney's for assistance at the Daytime Chapter

to everyone who has assisted the Club in any way.

In summing up, the efficiency of the Club is only as good as the effort put in by as many individuals as possible, for without that help this Club would not run very well at all.

So to each and every one of you I say thank you from myself and all our other members. I hope that in the coming year this Club will

grow and flourish with the continued support of all members.

I have enjoyed this year, I hope that you have too. All the best for 1992 to you, and the Club and good orchid growing

## DENDROBIUM tetragonum & SOME OF ITS PROGENY

by Reg Shooter

The genus *Dendrobium* is one of the largest in the Orchidaceae, containing upwards of 1400 species indigenous throughout Asia & Australia at all levels of altitude, from sea level to the range tops, & as would be imagined the variations within the genus is enormous.

Species range in size from the miniscule *Den. toressae* for instance with 8mm leaves to the gigantic *Den. discolor* which is capable of producing pseudobulbs up to 5 metres tall & all the variations in between.

Unique among them is the Aust. species *Den. tetragonum* with its distinctive square section pseudobulbs. It is a species consisting of two main varieties, *Den. tetragonum* from sth eastern New South Wales to sth eastern Queensland & *Den. tetragonum* var. *giganteum* from nth eastern Queensland. As the varietal name suggests the latter species is larger in all parts & is the one most used in modern hybrids.

Before I go any further I will briefly mention that Clements & Jones have bestowed specific rank to the var. *giganteum* naming it *Den. capitisyork*, i.e. from Cape York. For the purpose of this article & in deference to the many hybrids that have been registered to date using the original name I propose to adhere to that in this article.

A thought occurred to me when I learnt that *Den. tetragonum* had been spilt into 3 new species & *Den. speciosum* into 6 new species that Dr Lindley who, in 1856, when

he saw the first man made hybrid :- *Calanthe Dominii*, is reputed to have said, "Why, you will drive the botanists mad", will be laughing in his grave as the wheel has turned full circle & today it could be said to the botanists, "Why, you will drive the hybridisers mad". But to the subject at hand.

*Den. tetragonum* var. *giganteum* is endemic to the Cape York area of northern Queensland where it forms small to medium clumps mainly on melaleuca trees in close proximity to water. Some of the larger plants having up to 100 pseudobulbs. (what a sight that would be) but more generally 4 to 20. The plant habit is pendulous having pseudobulbs up to 40cm long, they are unique being wiry at the base then quickly forming a 4 sided bulb, hence the specific name :- tetra = four, gonia = angled. The 2 to 4 leaves are thin, dark green and leathery, formed at the apical end of the bulb where the 2 to 5, yellow green, purple spotted large spidery flowers appear on short 30mm racemes. The flowers appear anytime between April & November with the odd bloom appearing at other times during the year. This long flowering period is one of the main attractions to the hybridist as it extends the usually short native flowering season.

The species is most successfully cultivated by attaching to a suitable host such as a piece of cork bark or *Melaleuca* branch. Their natural habitat is invariably close to water in moist gullies & ravines where they receive constant humidity. This condition is required to be emulated in cultivation which, at least in Adelaide, requires misting the plants several times a day in the summer, not always possible for a working person. If this humid atmosphere is not maintained the orchid will languish, each succeeding year's

bulbs becoming smaller until it eventually succumbs. A system I have seen used with some success is to enlarge the draining hole of a clay pot, (choose a size to suit the plant), pass the roots through the bottom into the pot so that it is suspended from the base, place a wad of tree fern fibre or coconut fibre over the roots inside the pot & fill with any open porous material :- fir bark, charcoal, pebbles etc. Hang the newly potted plant in the shadier, humid part of the shadehouse or cold glasshouse. In this way the plant can follow its pendulous nature whilst its roots remain in an acceptable environment.

*Den. tetragonum* is very dominant as a parent, passing on, sometimes for several generations, its square pseudobulbs, its starry flowers & the habit of flowering several times a year. An initial acquaintance with this species, with its pendulous nature, its short raceme and low flower count would not immediately recommend itself as a parent, yet, arguably, some of the best hybrids of late have been made using this species as a parent. I wonder therefore what led Schmidt in 1928 to cross it with *Den. kingianum* to produce *Den. Ellen*, a hybrid that is still going strong today & is frequently being remade using selected clones to make some really beautiful progeny.

*Den. kingianum* has a small round, white through pink to red flower and is itself dominant as a parent.

Some *Den. Ellens* favour the *Den. tetragonum* parent whilst some the *Den. kingianum*, the best ones are intermediate between the two, having star shape pink spotted flowers on 12cm racemes.

Whatever it was that inspired Schmidt did not communicate itself to others immediately as there was to be a 37 year lapse before Willersdorf registered *Den. tetragonum* X *Den. bigibbum*, as *Den. Suzanne* in 1965. continued

FEBRUARY 1992 FLOWER OF THE MONTH

DENDROBIUM JOHN GUNTHER grown by John Nicholls

Dendrobium John Gunther is a crossing of species Den. veratrifolium X Den. ostrinoglossum, registered by G. H. Slade of Manly, New South Wales in 1970. Both species are antelope types from New Guinea, and both are large plants with terete erect stems reaching up to 2 metres in length. The very large well grown plant on the bench would need intermediate conditions. The plant was growing in a bark compost. Two canes were approx. 8 feet in length and another 5 foot, the three canes had 10 racemes of flowers, each stem was 18 inches in length with masses of mauve-white, brown tipped twisted petals.

OPEN DIVISION

Judges

Rick Pankoke  
Stephen Monkhouse  
Helen Edwards

Intermediate Cymbidium	Radiant Harry X Dolly Dr. Sharon Conrow	J. Nicholls K. Northcote	3 2
Miniature Cymbidium	Minuet Peter Pan 'Greensleeves'	K. Northcote K. Northcote	3 2
Standard Cattleya	Bc. Groganiae C. Elizabeth 'Betty'	J. & J. Jacobsen K. Northcote	3 2
Novelty Cattleya	C. Summer Stars C. granulosa X harrisoniae C. Summer Stars X forbesii	J. & B. Gay J. & J. Jacobsen J. & J. Jacobsen	3 2 1
Nov. Cluster Cattleya	C. Valentine Day 'Susie'	K. Northcote	3
Dendrobium	John Gunther Pauline X Red Antlers Kanchoe Beauty	J. Nicholls J. Nicholls J. Nicholls	3 2 1
Miscellaneous	Z. Helen-Ku	R. Moore	3
Phalaenopsis	Running Water	K. Northcote	3
Novelty Paphiopedilum	sukhakulii X praestans	R. Moore	3
Species	Doritis unknown Phal. amabilis Ceratostylis rubra	J. & B. Gay J. Nicholls J. & B. Gay	3 2 1
Vandaceous	V. Eisenhower X Ascda Buddy Choo V. Renzionowo X Ascda Pimba	J. Nicholls J. Nicholls	3 2

FLOWER OF THE DIVISION : DENDROBIUM JOHN GUNTHER grown by J. Nicholls

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FIRST DIVISION

Judges

John Gay  
Betty Wyly  
Rosalie Moore

Aust.Nat.Epi:Species	Sarc. ceciliae	M. Cunningham	3
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	Bulb. schillerianum	M. Cunningham	2
	Sarc. ceciliae	W. & M. Vaughan	1
Intermediate Cymbidium	? X Peter Pan	H. Gerber	2
Miniature Cymbidium	Peter Pan 'Greensleeves'	H. Gerber	3
	Minuet	H. Gerber	2
Standard Cattleya	Lc. Lena Baldwin	C. & H. Edwards	3
	Slc. Icaruzac X	F. Bell	2
	Slc Vallezac		
	Bc. Mount Anderson	C. & H. Edwards	1
Novelty Cattleya	Blc. Dragon Jade	R. & B. Wilson	3
	Bc Jackson Maijewski	R. & B. Wilson	2
	Lc Hausermans Sultan	T. & D. Howard	1
Nov. Cluster Cattleya	C. Valentine Day	T. & D. Howard	3
	C. Valentine Day	H. Pankoke	2
	C. Valentine Day	C. Amee	1
Cocktail Cattleya	Slc Sutter Creek	F. Bell	3
	C. Angelwalker X Interglossa		
	X Blc. Erin Kobayashi	T. & D. Howard	2
Dendrobium	Shogun 'K.K.'	W.R. Barrett	3
Phalaenopsis	Carmela's Wonder	R. & I. Goodall	3
Species Paphiopedilum	glaucophyllum	D. Biebrick	3
Species	Disa uniflora	C. & H. Edwards	3
	Encyclia alata	C. & H. Edwards	2
	Galeandra baueri	W.R. Barrett	1
Cattleya & Allied Gen.	Stlma. Kelly 'Lea'	T. & D. Howard	3
	Lctna. Flying Colours	T. & D. Howard	2

**FLOWER OF THE DIVISION: DISA uniflora grown by C. & H. Edwards**

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Second Division	Judges	B. Bower	
		B. Carpenter	
Miniature Cymbidium	Peter Pan 'Greensleeves'	D. Lockitt	3
Standard Cattleya	Blc. Gold Country	B. & R. Nurse	3
Novelty Cattleya	Blc. Cadmium Light	B. & R. Nurse	3
	C. forbesii X C. mossiae	B. & R. Nurse	2
	Lc. Mishima Star	B. & R. Nurse	1
Cocktail Cattleya	C. Priscilla Ward	A.V. Thompson	3
	Bl. Richard Mueller	B. & R. Nurse	2
Species	Milt. spectabilis	B. & R. Nurse	3
	B. cucullata	B. & R. Nurse	2

**FLOWER OF THE DIVISION : Blc. CADMIUM LIGHT grown by B. & R. Nurse**

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**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES**  
**THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.**  
**YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1991**

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENSES</u>	
BALANCE AS AT 31/12/90	1,329.44	<u>GAZETTE</u>	
SUBSCRIPTIONS	1,925	POSTAGE & PRINTING	1,517.10
DONATIONS	226		
TRADING TABLE	73.75	<u>CLUB EXPENSES</u>	
CHRISTMAS DINNER	470	STATIONERY	117
		LOTTERY LICENCE	5
<u>SALES</u>		HONORARIUMS	800
BOOKS	495.44	INSURANCE	236
BADGES	123.50	TROPHIES	286.50
HANGERS	123.85	HALL HIRE	1,045.60
		PETTY CASH	220
		SUPPER	176.51
		MISC	267.70
		AFFILIATION FEES	25
<u>RAFFLE</u>	1,060.10		3,179.31
		<u>PURCHASES</u>	
<u>WINTER SHOW</u>		RAFFLE	444
DOOR	687.30	MAGAZINES	569.59
RAFFLE	338	MEMBERS BADGES	36
AFTERNOON TEA	114.17		1,049.59
TRADING TABLE	3813.50		
		<u>WINTER SHOW</u>	
<u>SPRING SHOW</u>		TRADING TABLE	2,814.97
HANGER SALES	40.25	PRIZE MONEY	600
ODDMENT TABLE	341.23	MISC EXPENSES	88.05
AFTERNOON TEA	129.10	HALL HIRE	430
DOOR	525		3,933.02
RAFFLE	222.10		
BOOKS	145	<u>SPRING SHOW</u>	
BADGES	24	TRADING TABLE	2,720.24
TRADING TABLE	3,627.90	TRESTLE HIRE	125
		MISC EXPENSES	34
<u>INTEREST</u>		ADVERTISING	30.80
COMMONWEALTH			2,910.04
LOAN INTEREST	242.50		
INTEREST	76.50		
		<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>	
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>		CHRISTMAS DINNER	470
SUNDRY INCOME	185.79	GOVERNMENT CHARGES	49.14
AUCTION	36		519.14
COMMONWEALTH		SUB TOTAL	13,108.20
LOAN REDEEMED	1,000	BAL OF GENERAL ACCOUNT	4,267.22
<u>TOTAL</u>	17,375.42		17,375.42

*Audited & found correct with books & vouchers produced.*  
*N. D. G. [Signature]*  
*8/2/92*