



THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB

Affiliated with the Orchid Club of South Australia Inc. and with The Australian Orchid Council
Patron: Sir Francis Matters

MONTHLY NEWS SHEET

Issue No. 1 — January, 1972

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Our next meeting at the Morphett Vale RSL hall will be on Tuesday, 11th January at 8 p.m., and we have been fortunate enough to persuade Mr Harry Badenoch from Queensland to speak on Australian native orchids of North Queensland. Guests and prospective new members will be very welcome.

The Christmas Party held on 14th December was very successful, and we would like to thank everyone concerned, especially Mrs Ellie Shaw.

Prizes were presented to the aggregate winners for 1971: OPEN SECTION—Wesley Harris 83 points, Bernie Hansen 27 points, A. & J. Hofner 26 points. NOVICE SECTION— K. & E. Shaw, Peter Summers, Don Deal and Dick Styles.

The plants tabled at the December meeting were judged by Bernie Hansen and points awarded are: CATTLEYAS—*Laelia purpurata* (W. Harris), 3 points; *Cattleya gigas* (W. Harris), 2 points. MISCELLANEOUS GENERA—*Phalaenopsis* Star of Rio 'Bracey's' x *lueddemannianna* 'Ochracea' (J. & A. Hofner), 3 points; *Maxillaria houtteana* (Wesley Harris), 2 points; *Epidendrum atropurpureum* (W. Harris), 1 point.

POPULAR VOTES: Orchid of the month—Jack Hofner, *Phalaenopsis* Star of Rio 'Bracey's' x *lueddemannianna* 'Ochracea'.
Indoor plant of the month—Wes Harris, *Anthurium*.

The following office bearers have been elected for 1972:

Public Officer	Mr P. J. Summers	Supper Masters	Mrs Dulcie Graves and Mrs Anna Hofner
Show Marshal	Mr Keith Shaw	Auditor	Mr Mick Chenoweth
Opportunity Table Marshal and Plant Stewards	(1) Mr Jack Hofner (2) Mr Doug Lang (3) Mr Haden	Virus Adjudicators	(1) Mr Bernie Hansen (2) Mr Jack Hofner (3) Mr Graham Harvey
Librarian	Mrs Ellie Shaw	Club Hostess	Mrs Mollie Hunt
Editor	Mrs Iris Nash	Club Host	Mr Wesley Harris

We have purchased a few copies of a very helpful dictionary-type of orchid book, and these are available from Mrs Ellie Shaw at \$1.25 each. Ellie would also like to remind members to return outstanding library books as soon as possible.

The Christmas hamper was won by Mr Rex Pennington of Commercial Printing House (a non-member who has helped the Club unofficially, on the printing side, on many occasions!).

If any of you have any items of interest for our Monthly News Sheet, please submit them to the editor—Iris Nash (70 2194).

THE CATTLEYA ALLIANCE — by Wesley Harris

When I last commented on the species *Cattleya gigas*, it was soon after I had acquired the equivalent of some 50 Bulb Plants which had never flowered. Knowing that it is a rank individual, I wrote in the Bulletin that it is found in nature at some 8,000 ft elevation in the Andes mountains where, although winter temperatures are sometimes below freezing point the air is dry and in summer 74° F is about the warmest weather it faces. Now, after keeping plants outside, under milky-white corrugated plastic sheets and allowing them to keep dry from 1st May to mid-August they have made new growth and roots and one plant 2 flowers which opened yesterday—14th December.

The growth, whilst being 'conditioned' is 3/4 the normal size and the flowers are smaller than will occur in future, for I expect that fertilizing during this summer-autumn with a fairly high nitrogen content will help matters and 8" flowers or better could be the order of the next blooming.

Other flowering in this 'vacation' (no meetings) period are *Brassavola digbyana*, *Diacrium bicornutum*, the bulb-type *Epidendrum atropurpureum* and *E. Kampente*. Also the type species *Laelia purpurata*.

Other genera outside 'the Alliance' which are flowering now are *Bifrenaria tyranthina*, *Cymbidium lowianum*, *Dendrobium pulchellum* and *broomfieldii*, *Eulophia quineensis*, *Maxillaria houtteana*, *Neofinetia falcata*, *Oncidium ornithorhynchum* and *flexuosum*, *Paphiopedilum callosum* and *Sarcochilus ceceliae*.