



# 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

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## A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR CLUB MEMBERS

Our next meeting at the Morphett Vale RSL Hall on 14th December will be our Christmas party. Presentation of Prizes will then take place, also a MONSTER Raffle, with five seedlings as the main prizes. The Christmas hamper will also be drawn; this contains: Duck, Vegetables, Apple Sauce, Christmas Pudding, Wine, Nuts, Christmas Sweets, Bon-bons and Serviettes. Tickets for this raffle will still be available to time of the draw, if you have still not purchased yours.

Members are reminded to bring a wrapped gift to the value of 50c, a lady for a lady and gentleman for a gentleman. Members' wives or husbands are also welcome, but please bring the appropriate gift so that no one is left out. There will be a box each side of the door, marked Ladies or Gents. (I mean for the presents!) Please bring a basket supper, and a liquor permit will be obtained to enable you to bring any liquid refreshment of your choice. Tea and coffee will be served as usual.

The TRADING TABLE will also be open, so please bring along any plants which you wish to sell.

This meeting will be full of surprises and we hope to see all members present to join in the fun. Just bring along yourself, your money, your gift, your supper and your Christmas spirit.

At the last meeting Judge Bernie Hansen awarded:- OPEN SECTION—Cymbidium canaliculatum (J. Hofner), 3 points; Cattleya forbesii (Wesley Harris), 3 points; Bc Albana x Brassavola digbyana (Wesley Harris), 2 points; Cattleytonia Rosy Jewell (Wesley Harris), 1 point; Paphiopedilum lathamianum (Wesley Harris), 3 points; Dendrobium pulchellum (Wesley Harris), 3 points; Gongora nigrata (Wesley Harris), 2 points; Phalaenopsis Doreen x Dolores x Doreen Kodama (J. Hofner), 1 point; NOVICE SECTION—Cymbidium Joy Sander 'Ruth' (Peter Summers), 3 points; Cattleya Undine (Mrs Ellie Shaw), 2 points; Cattleya intermedia 'alba' (Doug Lang), 1 point; Bifrenaria harrisoniae (Don Deal), 3 points; Sarcophilus hartmanii (Doug Lang), 2 points; Phalaenopsis Orvistax Mildred Carleen (Mrs Ellie Shaw), 1 point. The POPULAR VOTES went to Sarcophilus hartmanii (Doug Lang) for orchids, and to a Rex Begonia (Jack Hofner) for indoor plants.

The Aggregate Winners for 1971 will be announced at the Christmas Meeting!

The following office bearers were elected at last month's Annual General Meeting:

President:	Mr Keith Shaw	Committee Members:
Past President:	Mr Bernard Hansen	Mr Jack Hofner
Vice President:	Mr Dick Styles	Mrs Ellie Shaw
Secretary:	Mr Peter Summers	Mr Harry Nash
Treasurer:	Mr Don Deal	Mrs Iris Nash.

## CULTURAL NOTES for December – by Bernie Hansen

With Christmas approaching summer will be here too. **ARE YOU PREPARED?**

1. Is there enough shade over your Cymbidiums or glasshouse. If you grow your Cymbidiums with a minimum of shading (1/3), a sprinkler system should be installed so that daily sprinkling on those 90° plus days can be enjoyed by the plants.
2. All dividing should be completed so that plants will be established and capable of withstanding the heat.
3. Glasshouses: If your plants look a little yellow from excess light slap a coat of paint on the glass.
4. Keep the floor damp. If you can use an air-conditioner (evaporative type) to keep the house cool. This will help to keep the humidity up and so save plant dehydration. If you haven't these facilities make sure the floor is damped down two and three times throughout the day and keep the vent barely open. Do not open doors and vents on high temperature days as the house will dry out in no time at all. Hot humid conditions are better than hot dry ones.
5. With all the extra water, full strength fertilizing should be on the programme. Cymbidium spike initiation takes place during December—January, so to help the Cymbidiums change to a fertilizer with a low nitrogen and higher phosphorous content from December onwards, to help the flowering.

With the Australian Orchid Conference being held here in South Australia in 1973, we have two years to prepare our plants for this Show. This is the first Conference to be held here and we want to make a good showing for the Interstate Visitors. If you are hesitating whether to divide a plant or let it go one more year, don't hesitate. A division of one to two green bulbs and growth now will make a good exhibition size plant in two years.

TO FINISH: A MERRY STEM AND A HAPPY NEW CLONE !!

Bernie.