



*July
2008*

The South Coast Orchid Club Inc. Gazette

**Patron
Sydney Monkhouse**

ABN 83 245 384 076

PRESIDENT	TREASURER	SECRETARY
Geoff. Spear	Judy McRedmond	Lucy Spear Box 314 OAKLANDS PK 83814420
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AT A GLANCE

OUR 43rd BIRTHDAY

The next meeting of the South Coast Orchid Club will be held at 8pm on Wednesday 2nd July 2008 at St. Bernadettes Church Hall, corner of Walsh Avenue and South Road, St. Mary's.

Guest Speaker: Rob Worden from Pt. Pirie. Subject: Cattleya Orchids. While supper is on we will play the disc from last month's presentation that Brian Gerhard left in Sydney.

Beginners Class 7.15pm before the main meeting.

Coordinator: John Dunn. Subject - Zygopetalums with Kevin Trevan.

DAYTIME GROUP: The next meeting to be held at Lou Kesting Hall, Dover Square, off Broadway, South Brighton on Thursday, 10th July 2008 at 2pm. Guest Speaker: Kevin Trevan will speak on Zygopetalums.

SOUTHERN REGIONAL GROUP will meet on Sunday 20th July 2008 at 2pm, Carrickalinga House, 17-19 Torrens Street, Victor Harbor. Guest Speaker: Jane Higgs will speak and show computer slides on Conservation. 1.30pm Beginners Class with Trevor Garard.

SPECIES GROUP: The next meeting will be held at Lou Kesting Hall, Dover Square, South Brighton on Monday, 21st July at 8pm.

MESSAGE TO VIETNAMESE GROUP MEMBERS: Next meeting on Sunday 26th October 2.00p.m. to 4.00p.m. at The Parks Library, Corner of Cowan Street, Angle Park.

ORCHID CALENDAR FOR 2008

Winter Show, Sunday 27th July to Saturday 2nd August, at South Gate Plaza, corner of Sherriffs and Hillier Road, Morphett Vale.

Southern Regional Group Show, 13th to 16th August at Newland Memorial Uniting Church Hall.

National Show, Friday 22nd to Sunday 24th August at Noarlunga Leisure Centre.

Royal Show OCSA, Put in Wednesday 3rd September.

Spring Show, 21st to 27th September at Centro Kilkenny.

Nikki Zurcher plant visit 18 October

DISPLAYS

Welland Plaza Centre, 522 Port Road, Welland. Sunday 5th October to Saturday 11th October.

Firle Plaza centre, 171 Glynburn Road, Firle. Sunday 26th October to Saturday 1st November.

http://members.optusnet.com.au/vcs_filmimg

Check it out to see all the updates gazettes & pictures.

Have an opinion or something to say

contact the Editor Ron Parish Ph 08 8298 4118

E-mail vcs_filmimg@optusnet.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.

PUBLIC LIABILITY

Under insurance guideline all members and Committee attending any function or meeting held by the Club must now sign an attendance book by name and signature.

2008 CLUB MEETING DATES

August 2008

- 6 Main Speaker Joe Romeo (European Natives)
- 14 Daytime Chapter
- 17 Southern Regional Les Nesbitt Terres trials
- 18 Species Group

September 2008

- 3 Main Speaker Sophie Thompson
- 11 Daytime Chapter
- 21 Southern Regional Trevor Garard
- 15 Species Group

October 2008

- 1 Main Glen Heylen
- 16 Daytime Chapter
- 19 Southern Regional George Abel
- 20 Species Group

November 2008

- 5 Main G Zerbe—Pendulous Cyms.
- 13 Daytime Chapter
- 16 Southern Regional Group
- 17 Species Group

December 2008

- 3 Main Christmas Dinner.
- 11 Daytime Chapter
- 21 Southern Regional Group

February 2009

- 4 Main AGM
- 15 Southern Regional Group
- 16 Species Group
- 18 Daytime Chapter

March 2009

- 4 Main AGM
- 12 Daytime Chapter
- 15 Southern Regional Group
- 16 Species Group

PUBLIC LIABILITY

Under insurance guideline all members and Committee attending any function or meeting held by the Club must now sign an attendance sheet with name and signature.

CULTURE DVD's

We now have many titles of orchid culture prepared by well known local growers available thru the Club. Titles Include- Culture videos for Cymbidium, Cattleya. Australian Native (4 different) Paphiopedilum Lycaste Zygopetalum Phalaenopsis Virus Deflasking etc, Contact Ron for more Details

SOUTHERN PLANT HOUSE VISIT Sunday 29th June. Grants Bus Service will have 2 pick-up points for members, 1 northern and 1 southern. Price \$25. Northern members bus will leave 9.15 SHARP from The Parks Library, Vale Park Gate 1. PLEASE BE ON TIME. Southern members 9.45am SHARP Lou Kesting Hall.

Members going by private transport 10.00am Sims Orchids. Prop. Rosemary and Moss Bray Sims Orchids, 123, Barcelona Drive, Noarlunga Downs. Nursery visit, morning tea. Depart 11.30am. and on to Valley Orchids, Prop. Linda and Graham Morris, Lot 8 Wheaton Road, McLaren Vale. BBQ Lunch (\$2.00 donation) please bring a salad or cake. Then Graham will show us through his laboratory. Then on to Trevor Garard's, 150 Brodie Road, Morphett Vale. **Geoff's mobile 0409 642 352.** Orchid plants for sale at the 3 nurseries. Cymbidiums at Moss and Graham's, other genera at Trevors.

Beginner's Group Programme for 2008 7.15pm in the Foyer before main meeting.

	SUBJECT	GROUP LEADER
July	Zygopetalum	Kevin Trevan
August	Paphiopedilum	Suzanne Saunders
September	Cymbidium species	Kevin Western
October	Growing species orchids	Ron Parish
November	Sarcochilus	George Abell

ALL WELCOME – BRING ALONG YOUR QUESTIONS.

COCO COIR

Valley Orchids, Graham Morris is supporting our Club by selling COCO COIR in 3 different grades – fine, medium, and course at \$9.50 per block, at Budgen Road, McLaren Vale. Phone: 0419823724. When purchasing please tell him you're a South Coast Orchid Club Member.

Supporting our Commercial Growers also supports the Club

WINTER SHOW JUDGING SATURDAY 26TH JULY 2008. Seaview Downs Primary School, 26-44 Ross Street, Seaview Downs. Put in between 12.30 and 1.30pm JUDGING 1.30pm SHARP. PLEASE NOTE NO ALCOHOL, SMOKING, NUTS, (NUTS IN CAKES OR CONFECTIONARY) OR ANY TYPE OF NUTS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THE SCHOOL PREMISES.

All Orchid plants must be out by 6.00pm.

PUT IN SHOW: SOUTHGATE PLAZA, Corner Of Hillier Road and Sherriffs Road, Reynella (in front of Target) SUNDAY 27th JULY at 7.45a.m. As many Committee members as possible please we have 3 hours to assemble Trading Table and put in the display. Trading Table plants 9.00am please.

JULY JUDGING ROSTER

REGISTRAR: N. Oliver

OPEN DIVISION

R. Fishlock, C. Campbell. Scribe – P. Flavel

FIRST DIVISION

R. Shooter, W. Lodge. Scribe – G. Flavel

SECOND DIVISION

H. Fishlock, J. Gay. Scribe – M. Tiggeman

Judges to arrive early please – N. Oliver, C. Campbell.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

July and what a busy month! Country Challenge, Murray Bridge Show, OCSA, Cym Club and then our Winter Show. I always find the Winter Show the best (wonderful Cymbidiums) and they make such a great display. I love all orchids but Cyms make such a great show. PLEASE all Division growers bring your plants in for judging. Just 1 plant, if everyone did this what a fabulous display it would be! At the Autumn Show a new member of just one week in the Club won 3 tickets for the plants she brought in and was very concerned it was not good enough for judging. Don't be shy, please bring along your plants. Cymbidium growers I'm sure you have all broken off spikes staking them up, I know I have. When transporting them to Shows put on more twisties (take them off before judging) be very careful of pollen caps, make sure plant has room to move slightly and not touch leaves etc. tie leaves up so they don't move around and, most important, use a milk crate to transport them or house bricks to hold them tight in car or van.

Remember, the plant you leave at home could be a winner.

Thank you for the support you are giving the meetings, beginners group and social occasions. You the members are making this a very special club.
Good growing and showing, Geoff.

DAYTIME GROUP REPORT

Hi Everyone,

Our Guest Speaker today was Mr. Trevor Garrard who gave all in attendance an excellent insight into the wonderful world of the Phalaenopsis Orchid. The information given was very detailed and interesting and gave us all hope that we could try to grow some of these beautiful Orchids, he also showed slides of Phalaenopsis and Zygopetalum Orchids which he grows very successfully, he then deflasked some Phalaenopsis seedlings, repotted them and donated them for our Raffle prizes. Thank you Trevor for the donation of plants which was very much appreciated and a great afternoon of shared information. As you can see we had a very full program and learnt heaps.

Did you know that in nature the Phalaenopsis Orchid grows with its roots attached to trees with the crown of the plant hanging down so the rain and moisture drains away quickly and the crown doesn't get water-logged?

Apologies today from Mr. & Mrs Peter Flavel and Mrs Marie Bravery we hope all is well and we can see you again soon.

We had a visitor today, Katherine Thomas, daughter of member Mr. Julian Tolhurst. Katherine came along to hear our Guest Speaker as she was keen to get some information on the growing of Phalaenopsis, I'm sure she was well pleased with the discussion today.

Mrs Maureen Zoladzieski was given certificates today from the Autumn Show at Colonnades, she was very thrilled and excited as this was quite unexpected. Maureen is a very new member who entered a plant in the Show and was rewarded with two certificates. Congratulations and well done.

Mr. Ron Parish gave an excellent plant commentary today. He grows many varied Genera himself and is quite Orchid savvy, thanks Ron. Mr. Don Biebrick's Cattleya George King 'Serendipity' was voted No. 1 in our popular vote segment, the plant well grown and displayed, had two lovely large flowers dusky pink in colour. Congratulations Don, great to have you back and showing again and a big thank you to everyone for bringing in all their beautiful plants, well done once again.

We have another Show coming up again soon so please bring in all your unwanted clean No logo plastic bags, these are very much required.

The meeting was closed after another enjoyable afternoon, a cuppa being next on the list.

Bye, Dorothy.

SOUTHERN REGIONAL GROUP

A great day was had by all at the workshop. No matter how many times you go to a workshop, meeting, or just talk to another orchid grower you can always come away with extra knowledge. I find it always pays to listen and apply what you think will work for you.

I will make a suggestion box and put it on the front table, then you can come up with suggestions or questions, of what you would like to see happen in the club.

Next meeting your guest speaker is Jane Higgs, she will talk on conservation. I saw this presentation in February (please don't miss it) it is all about Jane and Don's property at Myponga and, of course, Orchids. Show dates 13th to 16th August. Geoff and I are excited about this great venue. Reg is making the sign to go on the side of the road on the way into Victor Harbor. I have the advertising ready to send out. Please look after those special orchids for the Show, if you have any questions please ring Geoff. July meeting please bring your diary, so we can roster the Trading Table. Geoff and I are only too happy to man the table on Wednesday and Saturday. On Thursday and Friday we have commitments with the main club and day group, but we are only a phone call away. An exciting week, ending with your meeting on Sunday 17th.

Welcome to New Members.

Congratulations on your decision to be a member of our Club. Please attend the beginners class 7.15pm before main meeting. Borrow library books to take home to read and, most important, we all love to share the knowledge we have gained over the years with all members.

Welcome To Colleen Peters

The South Coast Orchid Club Early History

The South Coast Orchid Club was formed in July 1965 at the old District Council of Encounter Bay office in Crozier Road, Victor Harbor. The information came about through the efforts of Jack Earl of Victor Harbor,

who was interested in growing and flowering orchids. Sid and Shirley Monkhouse and Lenora and Graham Harvey were among the numbers that night.

Other meeting places included Morphett Vale and Christies Beach before settling at our current venue in St. Mary. The Daytime Chapter formed in 1986 followed by the Species Group in 2002 and back to Victor Harbor in 2005 – our Ruby Anniversary.

After the move to Morphett Vale in 1968 the Club's first Show was at Southgate Plaza in a vacant shop on the northern side of the centre. Forty years to the month we are back again for our Winter Show.

In forty three years, many of our members have seen the way this Club has grown and flourished. The great changes, the great people through the years that have made this Club what it is today. The change in orchid culture and the wonderful blooms and most of all sharing and caring of our members. Let's all look forward to our fiftieth anniversary.

FERTILIZERS- CYMBIDIUMS

Thank you to Peter Hall for allowing us to print this article from the Cymbidium News Club Magazine.

I suppose over the years there have been numerous articles written about fertilizers and to some it may be a pretty boring subject. I am writing this article mainly to satisfy us new or novice cymbidium growers.

We often hear that a certain grower has more spikes and produces better quality flowers because of his/her magic fertilizer. As new growers we tend to over fertilize our plants. It seems to be a human trait to add just that little bit more, we think that the little bit more will make them grow bigger and flower better. If we go back to the species orchids, they survive and flower in their natural habitat with a little leaf litter and sometimes very little water. Orchids are essentially a low nutrient plant and even our hybrid cymbidiums would grow and flower without fertilizers if they have adequate light, water and humidity with some air movement.

There are numerous brands of fertilizers on the market that vary enormously in their NPK values. I will list a few water soluble fertilizers.

Cressdale Pty Ltd Horticultural Solutions

HSO-12-helps to improve quality and colour of blooms

HSO-22-assists in growing vegetative growth

HSO-12 = N/12, P/12, K/20 and trace elements and calcium

HSO-22 = N/22, P/8, K/12 and trace elements and calcium

Nutri-Tech Solutions Pty Ltd

Nutri-tech Triple Ten: N/10, P10, K10 liquid fertilizer with chelated trace elements and organic fertilizers.

Nutri-Key Shuttle Seven – chelated trace elements with micronutrients and major elements iron as being the larger percentage iron as from shuttle.

Nutri-Tech calcium shuttle sequester/chelated shuttle with minor and major elements.

Slow Release Fertilizer (controlled release pellets)

N/16.32, P/4, K/10.4 Release the fertilizer according to temperature.

10-15 degrees C. 10 months, 15-20 degrees C. 7 months, 20-25 degrees C. 5 months. 25-30 degrees C. 3 months

Neutrog Strike Back for Orchids

N/8, P3, K10 with trace elements and calcium.

Strike Back is recommended by our club who have officially endorsed the product.

Strike Back is an organic based slow release fertilizer with trace elements and calcium. Our club members and one of our commercial growers, Graham Morris are extremely happy with the growing results so far and hopefully we shall have a much better flowering season this year. Secondary and trace elements are essential for healthy growth.

Nitrogen (N) needed for healthy plant growth.

Calcium (Ca) cell integrity and permeability also improves disease resistance.

Magnesium (Mg) a major component of chlorophyll and essential for activation of enzymes and plant respiration, also serves as a carbohydrate-based microbial stimulant.

Sulphur (S) required in protein and amino acid synthesis as well as in the structure and metabolism of plants.

Iron (Fe) essential for chlorophyll formation, also in photosynthesis and respiration. Iron is the most abundant element, but this reluctant element is often not plant available. Iron plays a major roll in maintaining the maximum green required for high-production photosynthesis. One of the essential elements required for biological nitrogen fixation, iron is an oxygen carrier for chlorophyll production. It increases leaf thickness which enhances nutrient flow. It makes the leaf darker with more capacity to absorb solar energy and increases the cuticular wax in the leaf.

Zinc (Zn) is involved in the many enzyme systems including growth hormones, stem elongation and carbohydrates and protein synthesis.

Manganese (Mn) involved in photosynthesis, respiration, and nitrogen metabolism and is a central component of chlorophyll. Manganese is often called the element of life. It is a critical enzyme activator. It is essential for carbohydrate and nitrogen metabolism. It accelerates maturity. Participates in the oxygen evolving system of photosynthesis.

Copper (Cu) mainly found in plant roots, it helps in nitrogen metabolism and is also involved in the plants enzyme system.

Boron (B) is involved in 16 plant functions including flowering, cell division at growing points and pollen germination.

Molybdenum (Mo) conversion of nitrogen for protein synthesis. Nitrogen-fixing bacteria require molybdenum for the nitrogen fixing process.

From our Affiliated Clubs

Orchid Club of South Australia Inc. Meeting

Enfield Community Centre,
540 Regency Road, Enfield. 8.00pm

2008 PROGRAM

3rd July Lesley Gunn W.A. Native Orchids

DAY GROUP MEETINGS

Enfield Community Centre,
540 Regency Road, Enfield. 2.00-4.00pm
(Bus Stop 119 Bus No. 100 Circle Line)

11th July Alan Howe Digital Photography

CLUB SHOWS 2008

12th-13th July Winter Show - Enfield Community Centre
5th-13th September Spring Show - Adelaide Showgrounds
25th October Socialising with Sarcs – Enfield Community Centre

A MEMBER CLUB OF THE AUSTRALIAN ORCHID COUNCIL INC.

Murray Bridge and Districts Orchid Club Inc.

Meetings held at 1.45pm in Johnstone Park Combined Clubs Hall, Adelaide Road, Murray Bridge.

2008 PROGRAM

27th July Jill Taylor will answer questions and speak on various interesting topics.

CLUB SHOWS 2008

4th/5th/6th July (set up Thurs. 3rd) Murray Bridge Town Hall, Friday 12noon – 5.00p.m. Saturday and Sunday 10.00a.m. – 4.00p.m. Photography, mini tabletop displays, soup, sandwiches, Devonshire teas, trading table and raffles.

Northern and Eastern Districts Orchid Society Inc.

Meetings held at 8.00pm in St. Phillips Parish Hall, Galway Avenue, Broadview.

2008 PROGRAM

July 17th John Gay Plant Preparation for Displays

DISPLAY DATES

17th to 23rd August Triangle Shopping Centre, North East Road, Modbury.
5th to 13th September Royal Show
14th to 20th September Greenacres Shopping Centre, Cnr. Mullers & North East Roads, Greenacres.

June Monthly floral Competition

Open Division

Australian Native Epiphyte Hybrid

217	Den. Anne's Rainbow Surprise 'Cyclamen'	Bev & John Gay (65)	3
218	Den. David Banks	Bev & John Gay (65)	2
219	Den. Hilda Poxon	Bev & John Gay (65)	1

Australian Native Epiphyte Species

216	Liparis reflexa	Malcolm Tiggeman (465)	3
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Australian Native Terrestrial Hybrid

223	Ptst. X furcillata	Malcolm Guy (248)	3
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Australian Native Terrestrial Species

220	Ptst. Obtusa	Malcolm Guy (248)	3
221	Taurantha ophioglossa	Malcolm Guy (248)	2
222	Diplodium torquatum 'Green'	Malcolm Guy (248)	1

Cymbidium < 60mm (all colours)

243	Cym. Autumn Elf 'Keeler'	Bev & John Gay (65)	3
244	Cym. Cherry Cola 'Geyslerland'	Malcolm Tiggeman (465)	2

Cymbidium 60 - 90 mm (all colours)

245	Cym. Red Baker	Malcolm Guy (248)	3
246	Cym. Artistic Impression 'Snowdrop'	Malcolm Guy (248)	2

Dendrobium (not Aust Native) Hybrid

232	Den. (name unknown)	Peter & Geraldine Flavel (487)	2
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Laeliinae Non Standard Cluster

241	Lc. Scarlet Imp x C. Browniae	Bev & John Gay (65)	3
242	C. Browniae	Bev & John Gay (65)	2

Laeliinae Species

237	Enc. cochleata	Malcolm Tiggeman (465)	3
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Laeliinae Standard < 100mm

238	Slc. Sierra Skies 'Leone'	Bev & John Gay (65)	3
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Laeliinae Standard > 100mm

239	Bc. George King 'Serendipity'	Don & Audrey Biebrick (103)	3
240	Bc. Languedoc 'Singapore Welcome'	Peter & Geraldine Flavel (487)	2

Oncidiinae Hybrid (Any other Oncidiinae)

236	Milt. X leucoglossa	Bev & John Gay (65)	3
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Oncidiinae Hybrid (Oncidium Hybrid)

234	Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'	Bev & John Gay (65)	3
235	Onc. Pardothyrsus	Malcolm Guy (248)	2

Oncidiinae Species

233	Onc. ampulaceum	Bev & John Gay (65)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species

265	Rstp. (ramkinstoria x striata)	Ron & Irene Parish (477)	3
266	Rstp. sanderiana	Ron & Irene Parish (477)	2
267	Rstp. nipponyncha	Ron & Irene Parish (477)	1

Orchid Seedling any genera

268	Z. (Kuitpo x Titanic)	Don & Audrey Biebrick (103)	3
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Paphiopedilum Novelty

257	Paph. (chamberlianum x F.C. Puddles)	Ron & Irene Parish (477)	3
258	Paph. Crossianum 'Album'	Malcolm Tiggeman (465)	2
259	Papjh. Crossianum 'Album'	Bev & John Gay (65)	1

Paphiopedilum Species

254	Paph. wardii	Ron & Irene Parish (477)	3
255	Paph. fairianum	Ron & Irene Parish (477)	2
256	Paph. appletonianum	Ron & Irene Parish (477)	1

Zygopetalum Hybrid (inc. intergenerics)

262	Z. Kuitpo	Don & Audrey Biebrick (103)	3
263	Z. Titanic 'Monarch'	Don & Audrey Biebrick (103)	2
264	Zga. Eileen 'Hazel'	Trevor Garard (152)	1

Zygopetalum Species

260	Z. mackayi	Don & Audrey Biebrick (103)	3
261	Z. crinitum	Don & Audrey Biebrick (103)	2

First Division

Australian Native Epiphyte Hybrid

211	Den. Alick Dockrill	David & Kay Cammack (1535)	3
212	Den. Louise's Rainbow	David & Kay Cammack (1535)	2

213	Den. (Jonathon's Glory x tetragonum)	David & Kay Cammack (1535)	1
Australian Native Epiphyte Species			
209	Den. prenticii	David & Kay Cammack (1535)	3
210	Den. lichenastrum	David & Kay Cammack (1535)	2
Cymbidium < 60mm (all colours)			
215	Cym. Pendragon 'Broadmoor'	Norman Woodend (1525)	3
Cymbidium Species (any size)			
214	Cym. tracyanum	Dorothy Carassai (294)	3
Laeliinae Standard < 100mm			
224	Rlc. Taida Rana	Suzanne Saunders (1481)	3
226	Sc. Hertha Wondabah	Suzanne Saunders (1481)	2
Oncidiinae Hybrid (Any other Oncidiinae)			
229	Mclna. Pagan Lovesong	Dorothy Carassai (294)	3
Oncidiinae Hybrid (Oncidium Hybrid)			
228	Onc. Sweet Sugar 'Sumi'	Suzanne Saunders (1481)	3
Oncidiinae Species			
227	Onc. pulvinatum	Wendy Lodge (406)	3
Orchid Seedling any genera			
231	Paph. (Gold Dollar x parishii)	Suzanne Saunders (1481)	3
Paphiopedilum Novelty			
230	Paph. (Gold Dollar x parishii)	Suzanne Saunders (1481)	3

Second Division

Australian Native Epiphyte Hybrid

249	Den. Graham Hewitt	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	3
250	Den. Hilda Poxon	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	2

Australian Native Epiphyte Species

247	Den. lithocola	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	3
248	Den. schneiderae	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	2

Laeliinae Non Standard Other

251	Lc. Undine	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	3
252	Lc. Malibu	Leo Micenko (240)	2

Zygopetalum Hybrid (inc. intergenerics)

253	Agwa. Alan x Chdra. Discolor x Zga.	Brian & Moyna Leedham (511)	3
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June Plant commentary

Open Division & Plant of the Night

An Oncidium identified as *O. ampulaceum*, grown by John & Bev Gay

This dainty Oncidium, with 3 inflorescences is grown in a 5" pot in medium to large bark. The lovely yellow flowers, which are very small (1cm. x 1.5cm), have brown markings on all segments. Each inflorescence is grown from the bottom of the pseudobulb and has approximately 50 of these tiny 'dancing ladies'.

The plant is grown cold, hanging outside under shade-cloth where it gets plenty of air movement which is essential for species Oncidium. A very well presented Oncidium species plant.

Well done, John and Bev.

First Division

Rlc. (Bc.) Taida Rana, grown by Suzanne Saunders

A very nicely presented *Rhyncolaeliacattleya*, with 1 inflorescence, that has two large flowers, presenting petals and sepals of a lovely shade of lavender/pink, with a striking darker purple labelum that has yellow blotches and striations in the throat. This



plant is influenced by *Cattleya walkeriana* in its background by the nice flat shape. The plant is growing in an 8" squat pot in medium bark, and is grown cold under 50% shade-cloth in Suzanne's back yard. The flowers also have quite a nice perfume. Nice growing, Suzanne.

Second Division

Dendrobium lithocola, grown by Rod & Judy McRedmond

It is nice to see such a small sized plant with so many inflorescences coming from the top of the canes, showing typical *Den. bigibbum compactum* shaped pink/purple flowers. There are 2 inflorescences growing out of 2 canes and another single one growing from another cane, with quite a few flowers still to open. This well grown plant is growing in an 80ml. pot in medium bark, and grows hanging above other *Dendrobium* plants under 70% shade cloth. These plants are found growing in New South Wales from Sydney on up to the border with Queensland. A credit to you both, Rod and Judy.



Some other plants that caught my eye were a rather large display of *Zygopetalums* (both species and hybrids) in Open Division. They ranged from *Z. mackayi*, with its typical green/brown petals and sepals and beautiful white/purple labellum. A few hybrids had petals and sepals that were more apple green with only a small amount of brown markings but with a vivid white labellum that had only a few purple stripes on them. Others had really dark green/brown petal/sepal combinations with very deep purple labellums that had hardly any white showing. All up, quite an outstanding group of plants.

Wendy Lodge, filling in for Ian Attenborough.

Southern Regional Group Monthly Floral Competition

Australian Native Epiphyte Species

- 1 Den. *Lithocola* grown by B. Leedham (511)

Australian Native Epiphyte Hybrid

- 1 Den. Colonial Bullion grown by D. & R. Overall (517)
- 2 Den. Hilda Poxon 'Ern' grown by E. Pinnock (519)
- 3 Den. Hilda Poxon grown by B. Leedham (511)

Cym <60mm

- 1 Cym. Barossa Ruby 'Emily Kate' grown by E. Pinnock (519)
- 2 Cym. Red Flame grown by E. Pinnock (519)
- 3 Cym. Sarah Jean 'Babalon' grown by N. Cockington (402)

Cym 60-90mm

- 1 Cym. Cherry Cola 'Geyserland' grown by E. Pinnock (519)

Cym over 90mm

Cym. Tracy Redaway x (Valley Legend x Margaret Thatcher) grown by E. Yeatman (895)

Laeliinae < 100mm

- 1 Cat. *Browniaie* grown by K. & R. Sutton (570)

Laeliinae > 100mm

- 1 Cat. *Portiata* grown by N. Cockington (402)
- 2 Cat. *Portiata* grown by N. Cockington (402)
- 3 Cat. *Intermedia Alba* grown by K. & R. Sutton (570)

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere – species

Stenoglotis longifolia grown by G. Noll (578)

Paphiopedilum

- 1 Paph. Redstart Chilton x Holdenii grown by K. & R. Sutton (570)

Zygopetalum Hybrid

1 Agwa (Alan x Chore Discolor) x Zga Dynamogrown by B. Leedham (511)

Plant of June Meeting

Cym. Cherry Cola 'Geyserland' grown by E. Pinnock (519)

SAROC Fair

We are very proud and grateful to all members who exhibited plants and helped setting up and with the BBQ

Below are some pictures of our 2 displays



Our Main display
Black Sand Beach
Hawaii



Species Group
Display

Australian Orchid Foundation AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Bark is the basic ingredient in the potting mixes that most orchid growers use. If you ask fifty growers, you will most likely find that they use fifty different potting mixes!

Generally, I use a mix comprising treated pine bark (85%), gravel of equal size (8%) and diatomite (7%) for my Australian native dendrobiums, paphiopedilums, cymbidiums and cattleyas.

In Australia we are fairly lucky when it comes to supplies of orchid bark. Over the last 70 years or so many Pinus radiata plantations have been established in the southern states, providing a renewable and sustainable source of pine. South Australia has the ability to supply nearly all Australia's demand for Pinus radiata bark. I have used this type of bark in the potting mix for my orchids for many years.

Pine bark is supplied in many different grades, and is suitable for most of our orchids.

Choose a grade appropriate to the size of pot and the character of the orchid's root system. Pine Bark, as sold for Orchid mix, is usually composted or treated to remove any compounds that are toxic to orchids roots. This is very important, as, in my opinion, the use of untreated bark is deadly to orchids.

When bought freshly bagged, pine bark is usually moist, has an earthy smell and is ready to use immediately. If I don't intend to use it all straight away, I usually allow it to dry out; it can be stored for several years without deterioration. When I need to use this stored bark, I soak it for 4-5 days in a drum of water to which I add a small handful of lime. Then I drain the drum and allow an hour or so for the surface of the bark to dry out a little. You should never use dry bark, as orchid roots need a moist potting mix. Dry bark is very difficult to re-wet and tends to absorb moisture from an orchid's roots.

If for some reason you need to use the dry bark in a hurry, use hot water instead of cold, and allow it to cool down naturally. It will be ready for use within a few hours. The hot water treatment will also fill any snails present, including any tiny garlic snails.

Having planted my orchids in fresh moist bark, I flush the pots well with water, until all fine bark and dust has been removed. Then I give all the plants a good soaking with seaweed extract or a treated stock blood product called Garden Party, which provides the orchids with beneficial microbes and mycorrhiza. This treatment allows the plants to settle in quickly and encourages new root growth. I sometimes use these products

several times before applying my usual chemical fertilizers.

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