

The South Coast Orchid Club of SA Inc.
Gazette

**December
2013**



PRESIDENT: Geoff Spear
PATRON: Sydney Monkhouse

AT A GLANCE

The next meeting of the South Coast Orchid Club will be held at 8pm on Wednesday 4th December 2013 at St. Bernadette's Church Hall corner of Walsh Avenue and South Road, St. Marys.

Features of the Night

5.30pm. Hall opens.
Between 6 and 6.30pm. Bench plants for judging.
6.30 pm Please be seated for dinner. Special guests are our Patron Syd Monkhouse and his wife Shirley and of course Father and Merry Christmas. The Club will provide fruit cup and nibbles. BYO Wine.

8.00 pm Main Meeting with guest speaker, Roger Herraman who will speak to us about his species cymbidiums, collected over a period of 30 years.

Another popular feature of the night is our Monster Raffle. Please contribute by donating a gift you would like to receive yourself ie wine, nuts, ferns, orchids, plants etc. to help make this a night to remember.

We will also have our Kris Kringle. Please bring a gift (suitable for male or female) and receive a gift in return \$5- \$6 max.

BEGINNERS' CLASS

No class at the December meeting. The next class will be in February.

DAYTIME CHAPTER

The next meeting will be held at Lou Kesting Hall, off Broadway, South Brighton on Thursday 12th December 2013 at 2pm. Our guest speaker will be Noel Oliver.

Please bring a gift (suitable for male or female) and receive a gift in return \$5 - \$6 max. Please also bring a plate for afternoon tea. A note has been sent to Santa.

SOUTHERN REGION GROUP

Christmas Lunch 11.30 am Sunday 15th December 2013 at Middleton Tavern. Pay as you order.
The meeting will be held at 2pm on Sunday 15th December 2013 at Carrickalinga House, 17-19 Torrens Street, Victor Harbor. The guest speaker will be Graham Zerbe. Father Christmas has been invited. Please bring a gift (suitable for male or female) and receive a gift in return \$5-\$6 max.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Please return all library books for annual stock take. Thank you.

All nominations for Committee of Management are to be in the Secretary's possession by close of the December meeting. There will be no cultural meeting in the month of January 2013 but we will have a friendly BBQ on 9th January.

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ABN 83 245 384 076

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Let's Start 2014 with a Social Event

Our yearly January BBQ is very popular and next year we will have it on Wednesday 8th January 2014 at St. Bernadette's Church Hall in the courtyard starting at 6.30pm. Join us for a great start to 2014. Please bring a salad or cake, finger food please.

Following the BBQ Graham Zerbe has again generously agreed to prepare a presentation "Reflections of 2013". Thank you Graham. This gives us the opportunity to reflect on another successful year. Please bring an orchid along for Popular Vote. 50 cents to enter. The winner takes the proceeds.

ORCHID CALENDAR FOR 2014

BBQ and SOCIAL NIGHT	WEDNESDAY 8TH JANUARY 2014 6.30 PM ST BERNADETTE'S CHURCH HALL
TOUR HAIGHS CHOCOLATE FACTORY	FRIDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY 2014 11.15 AM 154 Greenhill Road Parkside. Cremorn Hotel, Unley Rd..
AUTUMN SHOW	SUNDAY 4th MAY 2014 TO SATURDAY 10th MAY 2014 at the Pasadena Shopping Centre
S.A.R.O.C. FAIR	SATURDAY 7th JUNE AND SUNDAY 8th JUNE Torrens Parade Ground, Adelaide.
WINTER SHOW	SUNDAY 27th JULY TO SATURDAY 2nd AUGUST at the Arndale Shopping Centre
NORTHERN MYSTERY BUS TRIP	Date TBA but possibly 10th August. Join us and visit a mystery orchid grower, BBQ at the home of another orchid grower and then visit Virginia Garden Centre.
SPRING SHOW	SUNDAY 21st SEPTEMBER TO SATURDAY 27th SEPTEMBER at the Colonnades Shopping Centre. 17th October 2014.
STHN REGION GROUP WORKSHOP	RSL Hall, Victor Harbor. Date 28th to 31 August 2014
STHN REGION GROUP SHOW	

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY 5th FEBRUARY 2014

Trophy Presentation and Plant of the Year. Our guest speaker is John Richards and his topic will be Orchids in the Wimmera.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

2013 Outgoing Committee 15th January 2014 at 7.30p.m. 2013 Committee members to attend.

2014 Incoming Committee 12th February 2014 at 7.30p.m.

Dinner for 2013 and 2014 Committee Members

Friday 24th January 2014 sy 7 pm at Marion Hotel, 849 Marion Road Mitchell Park.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: (One membership covers all groups.)**2013 Subscription Rates**

Family membership	\$33.00
Single membership	\$25.00
Junior membership	\$17.00
Rural and Interstate membership	
Family membership	\$29.00
Single membership	\$23.00

BIRTHDAY DRAW

Is your name in the book?

LUCKY NAME BADGE

Make sure you wear your Name Badge, you may win a prize.

BIRTHDAY CONGRATULATIONS

Reg Clifford, John Gay, Wendy Lodge, Noel Oliver, Donna Meuwesen, George Misirlis, Heather Lucas, Ralph Lucas, Pam Sullivan, Erna van Leuveren.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS AS REQUIRED BY CONSTITUTION.**OFFICERS:**

11. The Officers of the Club shall be a President, two Vice Presidents (one of whom shall be elected Senior Vice President) by the Committee, Honorary Secretary and an Honorary Treasurer, all of whom shall hold office until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting, when they shall retire. All retiring officers shall be eligible for re-election from year to year.
12. Nomination in writing for these offices duly proposed and seconded by two financial members, and accepted by the nominee, shall be lodged with the Honorary Secretary before the close of the Ordinary General meeting in December each year. The election of Officers of the Club shall be by ballot at each Annual General Meeting.

Please use the Nomination Forms (printed on page 17 Of this Gazette) to appoint New Committee Members for 2014. If required, more forms are available from the secretary.
Forms to be handed to the Secretary before the close of the December 2013 meeting.

OUTGOING COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT & CONVENOR S.R.GROUP	Geoffrey Spear
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT	Donna Meeuwesen
VICE PRESIDENT	Paul Hayes
TREASURER	Judy McRedmond
SECRETARY AND PUBLIC OFFICER	Lucy Spear
COMMITTEE	

Dorothy Carassai; Barbara Almond, Rod McRedmond and Andrew Lutz.

All positions are declared vacant. Please give some consideration be being a committee member. We need to fill three positions.

CORRECTION: Page 3 of the November edition of this gazette incorrectly advised the date of the Christmas dinner and the main meeting . The Christmas dinner and the December main meeting will be on Wednesday the **4th** December 2013.

VALE**Peter Fenton 30.01.1927 - 07.11.2013**

Peter passed away in the early hours on the 7th November 2013.

Peter attended the first meeting of the Daytime Chapter some 28 years ago. Lesley Fenton joined the following month.

For 28 years they have both been very active members of our Club. Peter happily sold raffle tickets and together Lesley and Peter have always supported our Club. Peter also sold raffle tickets at other Orchid Clubs of which he and Lesley were also members.

Peter will be sadly missed by all members of The South Coast Orchid Club.

Rest in peace, Peter.

ASSOCIATE JUDGES PLEASE NOTE

Your yearly roster for 2014 meetings will appear in the February 2014 Gazette. Please notify Lucy before close of the December meeting of any times not suitable to you in 2014.

URGENTLY NEEDED

We urgently need a member with a van or a trailer to take show props ie crates, trestles, bollards etc to shows.

Assistance is required at the following times:

Autumn Show:	Friday	2nd May	1 hour
	Saturday	3rd May	All day
	Saturday	10th May	After 3 pm
Winter Show:	Friday	25th July	1 hour
	Saturday	26th July	All day
	Saturday	2nd August	After 3 pm
Spring Show:	Friday	19th Sept	1 hour
	Saturday	20th Sept	All day
	Saturday	27th Sept	After 3

Also may be needed on the morning of Friday 6th June and Sunday 8th June after 4pm.

Please telephone Lucy urgently of 8381 4420 if you are able to assist.

HELP WANTED FOR WORKSHOPS IN 2014 PLEASE

We seek 6 members with a shed or covered outdoor area to hold workshops for the months of February, April, June, August, October and December. It is anticipated that the workshops would be of two and a half hour duration.

The first half hour would be for socialising with a cuppa and biscuits.

The second half hour would be showing your collection.

The last hour and a half would be for discussing growing orchids, questions and answers and any orchid information.

Paul Hayes has already volunteered for June and Daniel Lutz for April. We only need four more people to volunteer.

SOCIAL OUTINGS - 2014

Friday 7th February

Haighs Chocolate Factory Visit 154 Greenhill Road Parkside at 11.15 am. Lunch venue will be the Cremorn Hotel, Unley Rd.

10th August (to be confirmed)

Mystery Bus Trip.

Two northern orchid growers have invited us to visit their homes. Both will have plants for sale. After a BBQ lunch we will visit Virginia Nursery.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The South Coast Orchid Club committee members would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year

Thank you to each and everyone of you for making 2013 such a successful year. It has not been easy for many members to meet their commitments, but you all managed well. Many members have had their share of illness. I hope that 2014 will be much kinder to you. To those of you who have lost loved ones, we are thinking of you.

My wish for 2014 is that I would love to see a member take on the position of Senior Vice President to become President in 2015 to take us into the next 50 years. We also need 3 committee members. Please give this serious consideration. Remember forms must be handed to Lucy before the close of the December meeting.

Members when repotting, please remember your Club and don't throw away pieces which can be potted up. We always need plants for new members and raffles etc

As President, I take this opportunity to congratulate the Associate Judges on their promotion. I also wish to thank the Judges, Bev Gay, Sue Zerbe, Lesley Fenton, Brian Lyttle, Kevin Western, Pauline Hockey, Henk van Leuven, Des and Hazel Alsop, David Williams, John Carassai and all of the members who assist on our trading tables. Thank you all for your support throughout the year. Your efforts have been greatly appreciated.

Thank you to all members who assist behind the scenes. We cannot manage without Lesley Fenton and helpers in the kitchen, John Carassai and Paul Hayes setting up the hall each month, Michael Willoughby and Oui Ju and Helmet and Ursula Herrmann helping at the shows and members who stay behind after a meeting to tidy up. We do appreciate your efforts.

I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year. May all your wishes come true.

Good growing and showing

Regards Geoff

DAYTIME CHAPTER

Hi Everyone

Our Daytime Chapter meeting was a very interesting and informative one today.

Mr David Williams, one of our regular Daytime Members, was asked if he could prepare a presentation of his choice for us. He chose bromeliads. David is very interested in this type of plant of which he has many varieties. These propagate easily and David often brings plants along each month for our raffle, which is much appreciated. Thank you David. You put much thought into your presentation and obviously did lots of research. David provided printed notes to share and brought along a few different varieties and also gave us a potting demonstration. The plants all looked very green and healthy, putting mine to shame. So, congratulations and thank you David for a job well done.

Apologies today from George and Patty Abell, Geraldine and Peter Flavel, Josephine Ogrowsky and Anne Dewar. Hope to see you all again soon.

We had a few visitors today, Brian and Roslyn and Betty Osmond, who lives near Lucy. Betty has now joined our Club. Congratulations Betty, we look forward to seeing you at future meetings.

Next month is our Christmas break up month. Father Christmas has been invited. Could you all please bring a plate of goodies to share for afternoon tea. If you would like to participate in our Kris Kringle, please also bring a gift to the value of \$5 - \$6, something suitable for male or female that you would like to receive yourself. This is really a gift swap which is usually a bit of fun. We also sing a few carols in keeping with the Christmas spirit.

Our night time main meeting is having a Christmas Dinner. If you would like to attend, please ring Lucy on 83814420 to book in.

Mr Bill Clark won the Popular Vote segment today with a beautiful specimen sized plant of Slc. Jewel Box 'Scherherazade'. This beautiful plant had many orange/red flowers. Bill is an excellent grower of many different genera. So congratulations, Bill. Well done.

The meeting was closed. Thank you to all who attended.

Bye.

Dorothy.

Phone: 82771793



SOUTHERN REGION GROUP MEETING SUNDAY 17th NOVEMBER

Beginners' Class: Graham Zerbe hosted the Beginners' Group talking with the members on how to "summerize:" their orchids and what their growing conditions were as well as the different genus of orchids they grew.

Apologies: Helen Humphreys, Sid James, Marilyn Jelfs, and Judy Crafter.

The President opened the meeting and thanked Graham for his input to the Beginner's' Class. He then welcomed Lesley and Robert Gunn, members and visitors.

At the October meeting Roger Herraman gave a brilliant presentation on species cymbidiums. We all found this to be an exciting presentation. Thankyou Roger. The president also reminded us of our christmas Dinner at the December meeting (Middleton hotel) and asked all to be seated by 1130am.

Guest Speaker: Our guest speaker. Lesley Gunn, treated us all to a pictorial tour of Ecuador. We looked at one of their larger annual shows first then travelled into the bush to see some of the many species ah la natural. Many of the photos of plants shown could have been prize winners if they were able to be benched at a show. Thank you Lesley and Robert.

Right: Guest Speaker Lesley Gunn ably assisted by husband Robert.



The Raffle: This again provided many prizes with some multiple winners. The door prize was won by Keith Sutton, the birthday draw won by Cliff Wegener.

Next Meeting: 1130am at the Middleton Hotel lunch followed by the meeting featuring guest speaker Graham Zerbe with a presentation of a few funnies and some interesting pictorials and some Christmas cheer.

Thankyou to Sid James for selling his spare plants on the Trading Table. This not only gives club members the opportunity to buy some excellent plants but also allows the club to benefit from these sales.

JUDGING:

The plants brought in for the showbench were few (10 in total) but of good quality. As the season draws to a close this is to be expected. The Judges had a good workout settling on a plant of *Dendrobium monophyllum* brought in by Eileen Pinnock. The plant although small, had outgrown its original mount and a secondary mount was glued to the existing one to give the plant more room to grow.

The plant carried 4 inflorescences with typical type flowers in pristine condition. Well done Eileen thank you for sharing this plant with us.

The Popular Vote was a well grown plant of *Phragmipedium Sedenii* 'Candidum' grown by Ruth Tugwell. This plant had one inflorescence with two open flowers and possibly another or three to come as this plant is progressive, with the open flowers dropping off when least expected.

Thanks Ruth for sharing this beautiful plant with us.

Photos and all results on next page.

SRG November Results List

Ref.No.		Points Awarded
Second Division		
Australian Native Epiphyte – species		
293	Den. monophyllum.	Eileen Pinnock 3
Australian Native Epiphyte – Hybrid		
294	Sarco. Bernice Klein	Bruce Kirk 3
Laeliinae – Standard under 100 mm		
295	Lc. Aussie Sunset 'Cosmic Fire'	Eileen Pinnock 3
296	Lc. Chit Chat 'Tangerine'	Keith & Russ Sutton 2
Laeliinae – Standard - over 100 mm.		
297	C. Lim Theng Hin	Keith & Russ Sutton 3
Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species		
298	Biff. harrisoniae	Joan McMahon 3
Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere – Hybrid		
299	Phal. Unknown 'Pride & Joy'	Joan McMahon 3
300	Phrag. Sedenii 'Candidum'	Ruth Tugwell 2
301	Den. Unknown	Joan McMahon 1



Flower of the Day winner *Den. monophyllum* (above and above right) benched by Eileen Pinnock here being congratulated by Noel Oliver (right).



Popular Vote winner *Phrag. Sedenii 'Candidum'* (above left) benched by Ruth Tugwell seen here once more with Noel

November Results List

Ref. No.		Points Awarded
Open Division		
Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid		
520	Sarco. Olive Grace 'Bambi' Kevin Trevan (295)	3
521	Sarco. [(Fitzhart x Pink Hart) x fitzgeraldii] Kevin Trevan (295)	2
522	Sarco. (Melba x hartmannii) Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	1
Australian Native Epiphyte - Species		
518	Sarco. hartmannii 'Dream' Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	3
519	Sarco. hartmannii ('George' x 'Perfect Circle') Kevin Trevan (295)	2
Australian Native Terrestrial - Species		
523	Phaius tankervilleae Richard & Beryl Wilson (321)	3
Cymbidium - over 90mm (all colours)		
524	Cym. Lunakira 'Yellow Star' Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	3
Laeliinae - Species		
525	Epi. elongatum 'Fairy Lavender' Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	3
Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm		
526	Rlc. Sylvia Fry 'Olga' Richard & Beryl Wilson (321)	3
Laeliinae - Standard under 100mm		
527	Ctt. Dixie Jewels 'Suzuki' Richard & Beryl Wilson (321)	3
Oncidiinae - Species		
528	Onc. maculatum Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	3
Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species		
530	Arpophyllum spicata Geoff & Lucy Spear (5)	3
Orchid Seedling - any Genera		
531	Sarco. (Fizzy Dove x Karla) Kevin Trevan (295)	3
Zygopetalum Hybrid (inc. intergenerics)		
529	Fish. Mellow 'Vale' Kevin Trevan (295)	2
First Division		
Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid		
543	Sarco. Heidi 'Ross' Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby (1252)	3
544	Sarco. Ruby Wendy Lodge (406)	2
545	Sarco. (Kirra-Lea x Cherie) Wendy Lodge (406)	1
Cymbidium - less than 60mm (all colours)		
547	Cym. Cricket 'Rosetta' Rito & Rosetta Silvestri (302)	3
548	Cym. Sweet Devon 'Fiona' Rito & Rosetta Silvestri (302)	2
549	Cym. Bunyip 'Precious Memories' Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby (1252)	1
Cymbidium - Species (any size)		
546	Cym. lowianum Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby (1252)	3
Dendrobium (not Aust Native) - Hybrid		
550	Den. Mt. Fuji 'No 10' Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby (1252)	3
Laeliinae - Non Standard Laeliinae		
556	C. Louise 'Georgiana' William Clark (407)	3
557	C. Fort Motte 'Leopard' Trevor & Helen Stutley (1139)	2
559	Lc. Gold Digger 'Orchidglades' Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby (1252)	1
Laeliinae - Species		
555	C. skinnerii Trevor & Helen Stutley (1139)	3
Oncidiinae - Species		
551	Onc. sphacelatum Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	3
552	Onc. leucochilum Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby (1252)	2
553	Onc. sphacelatum Wendy Lodge (406)	1
Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid		
562	Lyc. Macama 'Alive' Trevor & Helen Stutley (1139)	3
563	Lyc. Sunset 'The Prince' Trevor & Helen Stutley (1139)	2
564	Lyc. Macama 'Atlantis' Trevor & Helen Stutley (1139)	1

November Results List (cont.)

Ref. No.			Points Awarded
First Division (cont.)			
Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species			
560	Ansellia africana	Wendy Lodge (406)	3
561	Arpophyllum gigantia	Wendy Lodge (406)	2
Orchid Seedling - any Genera			
565	Onc. leucochilum	Oui Ju & Michael Willoughby (1252)	3
Phalaenopsis - Standard under 80mm			
554	Phal. unknown	Wendy Lodge (406)	2
Second Division			
Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid			
511	Sarco. (Judith x Fitzhart)	Daniel & Andrew Lutz (709)	3
512	Sarco. (Kirra-lea x Cherie)	Daniel & Andrew Lutz (709)	2
Cymbidium - less than 60mm (all colours)			
515	Cym. Cricket 'Rosetta'	George Misirlis (1125)	3
516	Cym. Cricket	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	2
Cymbidium - over 90mm (all colours)			
517	Cym. unknown	David Williams (1351)	3
Dendrobium (not Aust Native) - Hybrid			
514	Den. Hamana Lake 'Dream'	Daniel & Andrew Lutz (709)	3
Dendrobium (not Aust Native) - Species			
513	Den. nobile	Paul & Donja Hayes (1129)	3
Laeliinae - Non Standard Cluster			
534	Epi. [(Sueda Rose x Purple Princess) x elongatum]	Daniel & Andrew Lutz (709)	3
Laeliinae - Non Standard Laeliinae			
535	C. Louise 'Georgiana'	Paul & Donja Hayes (1129)	3
536	Slc. Jewel Box 'Schezerhade'	Paul & Donja Hayes (1129)	2
537	Pot. Perfect Choice 'Perfect Lady'	Paul & Donja Hayes (1129)	1
Laeliinae - Species			
533	C. intermedia	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	3
Oncidiinae Hybrid - Any other Oncidiinae			
532	Ionocidium Popcorn 'Harun'	Paul & Donja Hayes (1129)	3
Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species			
542	Arpophyllum spicatum	Daniel & Andrew Lutz (709)	3
Phalaenopsis - Standard under 80mm			
539	Phal. unknown 'Cyclamen'	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	3
540	Phal. unknown 'Soft Green'	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	2
541	Phal. unknown 'Speckles'	Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119)	1

November Registrar's Report

The quality of the plants benched at the meeting was outstanding. It was a night when any one of about a half dozen plants could have been a worthy winner and this really gave the judging panel a thorough workout. It was a credit to the members who brought plants in for judging. Our commiserations to those members that weren't successful.

Flower of First Division and Flower of the Night: *Cymbidium* Cricket 'Rosetta' was benched by Rito & Rosetta Silvestri. This plant is a hybrid of *Cym.* (*devonianum* x *madidum*) registered by Greenoaks in 1964. The plant was growing in a 200mm pot with many typical Cricket type flowers, very fresh and clean. There were some 37 inflorescences each carry an average of 33 flowers. The flowers were approximately 35mm wide by 40 mm high. The sepals were a sandy beige in colour the petal were darker, and a darker stripe along the centre, with a velvety red labellum a yellow pollen

November Registrar's Report (cont.)

cap highlighted the flower. An excellent specimen plant and credit to the grower for the culture exhibited. Well done Rito & Rosetta. You certainly produce this orchid in pristine condition at this time of the year. There were 28 plants benched in First Division on the night.



Flower of Open Division: *Sarcochilus* Olive Grace 'Bambi' was benched by Kevin Trevan this plant was very well grown and a primary hybrid of *Sarco. (falcatius x Perth. hillii)* registered by Simpsons Orchids in 1996. There were eight inflorescences averaging 24 flowers. The flowers were very clean and fresh, grey/white in colour with purple spots on the petals and sepals, with purple spots and stripes inside the labellum pale yellow in the back of the throat highlighted with a creamy yellow pollen cap. Another well grown and flowered *Sarcochilus* plant from the Trevan stable. We could all benefit by talking to Kevin to find out how he grows these plants. Well done Kevin. There were 24 plants benched on the night.



November Registrar's Report (cont.)

Flower of Second Division: *C. Louise 'Georgiana'* grown by Paul & Donja Hayes. This plant is a hybrid of *C. (loddigesii x Luegeae)* registered by McBeans in 1928. The plant was growing in a 175 mm pot. Well grown and flowered with many nine (9) pristine white flowers, with faintest brushing of pale yellow on the inside of the labellum. Very fresh and clean. There were some 20 inflorescences each carrying an average of 17 flowers. The flowers were approximately 75mm wide by 80 mm high. The shape was open and the segments were quite narrow. An excellent specimen plant and credit to the grower for the culture exhibited. Well done Paul & Donja. Keep up the good work. There were 25 plants benched in Second Division on the night.



The Seedling of the Night - Chin Yew Lian Trophy nominee: *Oncidium leucochilum* was benched by Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju . This plant was very well grown, carrying one tall branching inflorescence with many well spaced typical type flowers brownish yellow in colour with many mustard coloured spots on the segments and a largish white skirt with pink markings near the back of it. Brilliant yellow keels and pink sides to the back of the labellum. Michael & Oui you are certainly growing your plants well. Thanks for sharing this beauty with us.



Annex A P1

Orchid Culture Notes For December.

2013 is about to end what has been a most unusual year growing wise and my only hope is that things return back to normal but alas I feel that is not so. I don't even know what a normal growing year is like anymore. Whether or not it's climate change the one thing for certain we must accept these changes, whether it creates early or late flowerings, mild winters and cool springs. Heck some orchids will even skip flowering and some terrestrials won't even bother to come up and take a year off underground or in their pots so the lesson here is don't throw the pots away if you have a terrestrial having a break. If it does not come up the following year then it is most likely dead.

A downside of changes relates to those orchids that flower out of season. I have cymbidiums that don't flower in the winter show benches flowering in November. The flowers not even like those we would see if flowered at the right time. They should be in active growth making up growth to flower in June but if they are flowering now what effect will that have on next year?

Late flowerings can delay the onset of new growth and this can restrict the size of our new growths. This will have a marked effect on next year flowering if they cannot grow to maturity or size in time. It is unfortunate that disruptions to a plants normal growth pattern can have effects that linger well into the following growing season. This same effect does not always have a weather cause either. If we divide at the wrong time this can cause stress to the plant that may take sometime to recover. Its worth noting this and a good rule from this is only divide a few plants each year to ensure a reasonable flowering each year from the remaining plants. Re potting can be done anytime as the disruption to the plant is minimal. Divide them all in one hit and next year flowering could be lean.

December lends itself to some hot weather with lengthy warm breaks in between the heat. January and February are relentless and we can expect some extremes!

The usual rules apply now to watering. Be thorough here as it does not take long for a plant to dry out and many will get missed, especially those at the back of the bench or crowded out by something a little larger. Remember small plants dry out quicker than large plants and terracotta dries out faster than plastic. Plants dry out faster when it is windy. Once dry the mix can be very hard to rewet. The bark can get a fungal coating that can make it nigh on impossible to wet properly. You water but find that most of the water runs straight out. So you think its wet, wrong! Most likely the water is running through a set of channels or along the sides of the pot with the result that most of the plant stays thirsty. Remember the feel of the pot rule. If it feels light it's probably dry and if there is some weight to it then its most likely wet and does not need watering. Observe the leaves. Sagging and wrinkling are obvious signs of water stress but can also be the result of root damage from too much water. Pots that have dried out and have become water repellent may need to be soaked in water with a rewetting agent applied. A stressed out and thirsty plant should not be fertilised. Once they get to this stage most likely the growth tips of the roots have sealed in an attempt to starve off dehydration. If you have to feed then maybe Seasol as a root stimulant and a weak foliar feed can be considered. Give these plants lower light levels and higher humidity until they recover.

It also pays now to observe some of the natives and other genera that are not quite as healthy this year as last. Why is this so said Prof. Julius Sumner Miller! Start by inspecting the potting mix. When was the last time they were re potted. Most likely the potting medium has begun to break down. When you have a reasonable sized collection you will be surprised how many plants reach this neglected stage. The air spaces in the mix the plant enjoyed previously are now closed up with sludge caused by the breakdown of the mix and the roots cannot breathe much to the detriment of the plant and rot. Remember air around the roots is important as many plants come from an epiphytic background where the roots were mostly exposed to the air full time and not buried in a pot.

In the orchid house I am watering mostly mornings with a light spray late afternoon. I will lightly spray the cymbidiums at night as they rely on a temperature drop this time of year to initiate spikes, especially those early Autumn flowering clones. It will also be time to switch back to a blossom booster type feed by the end of the month. Mounted plants get misted 2 to 3 times a day when its hot but if you can't try some old mans beard (*Tillandsia*) and wrap it lightly around the roots to provide a mini microclimate.

Many plants are in active growth. Autumn flowering *Laeliinae* are moving along well with new growths taking shape. A nitrogen based feed such as Campbells Blue, Aquasol or Thrive builds up new growths quickly. These plants also throw out a new crop of fast growing roots with red or green tips that indicate receptiveness to water and fertiliser. *Oncidiums* also fit the same bill at this time of year and it is also a good time to divide and re pot. The active roots soon tune into the new mix with hardly any reduction in vigour. Same applies to mounting them.

Keep an eye out for burning and pitting of leaves this time of year. Even under 70% shade cloth our sun can soon cook leaves. Those plants that are hung high up are even more prone to damage. Main cause here is dryness. I've said it before and will say it again. Humidity in a hot dry climate is your best friend. Keep the floor damp at all times. If you have to mist plants during the day then do it over a long period, not 5 minutes. A lengthy misting will cool down plants more effectively than a short squirt from the hose. For those who don't have misters drop plants on the floor or as low down as possible when the temperatures climb. Lower light, temperature and higher humidity will at least give the plant a chance. Supersensitive plants can be placed under the benches or beneath the leaves of the cymbidiums but don't forget them when the weather cools. These plants will soon join the non watered plant list if they stay there too long!

This month is a horror month for bugs!! Actually we have 12 months of bug problems. I still can't work out why I grow orchids, All they do is feed my bugs! This month problems are mainly caused by looper and mini caterpillars only because they cream the new growths we rely on for next year flowers as they are tender and delicious. *Zygoes* and any broad and soft leaved orchid will be on the menu. Keep your eye out on ants as well as they start moving soft scale around the place. Flower spikes are a favoured site. Break out the Dipel and Mavrik for a good deal of protection.

It's goodbye 2013. Another silly orchid growing season gone but I look at it this way. If orchid growing was as predictable as bills going up and up then I would want another challenge. I congratulate all those that won something during the year. For those who did not then next year is your chance but it starts now. Don't sit on the outer, ask a million questions and if it flowers then bring it in to a meeting or beginners group for discussion. Whatever it is, there will be somebody around to lend a hand and give some advice. The quality of the flowers I have seen of late is a credit to all who show them. All the best to 2014 and another excellent growing season.

Steve Howard

ORCHID CLUBS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA – General Meeting Times

THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Meets on the first Wednesday of the month at St. Bernadette's Church Hall corner of Walsh Avenue and South Road, St. Mary's. Beginners Class starts at 7.15p.m., meeting at 8.00p.m.

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 REGIONAL GROUP: 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.

NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICTS ORCHID SOCIETY: meets in St. Philip's Church Hall, Galway Avenue, Broadview from 7.30p.m. on the 3rd Thursday of the month.

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ORCHIDACEOUS SOCIETY: Meets at the Adelaide West Uniting Church Hall, 312, Sir Donald Bradman Drive, Brooklyn Park 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.

Our Affiliated Clubs:

The Murray Bridge and Districts Orchid Club.

The Orchid Club of S.A. Inc.

Please Note:

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 second Thursday of each month.

E. & O. E.

EDITOR: Rod McRedmond Ph 08 8293 3545

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We wish to thank the following persons who have supported us and our shows with donations etc. Members are requested to keep these people in mind when purchasing orchids and supplies.

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Please complete and hand to Secretary "Lucy Spear."
Nominations must be received by the close of the December 2013 Cultural Meeting

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Members Note: Nomination forms may also be picked up from Lucy at the December main meeting.

AFFILIATED CLUBS

Murray Bridge and District Orchid Club Inc.
Orchid Club of South Australia

**If unclaimed please return to
P.O. Box 314 Oaklands Park S.A. 5046**


