



THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SA INC.

Gazette

March 2023

Patron: Coralie Hills FAOC
President: Michael Willoughby

AT A GLANCE

The next General Meeting of the South Coast Orchid Club of South Australia will be held on Monday 13th March 2023 at 8.00 pm. at RSL Hall, 4 Prince George Parade, Colonel Light Gardens. The Guest Speaker will be Michael Willoughby demonstrating web sites and how to find orchid names and photos, correct abbreviations for genera, International Orchid Register, Orchid Roots, etc.

LEARNERS' GROUP: There will be a Learners' Group Meeting at the March Meeting at 7.15pm.

JUDGING: Please have your plants benched by 7.40pm so Judging can commence at 7.50pm. If you are running late due to work commitments please phone Phil on 0438 891 612.

DAYTIME CHAPTER: The next meeting will be held on Thursday 9th March 2023 at 2.00 pm Our Guest Speaker will be Kevin Western talking about Cleaning pots and equipment and why, also demonstrating virus kits and potting mediums.

SOUTHERN REGION: The next meeting will be held at 2.00 pm on Sunday 19th March 2023 in Carrickalinga House, 17-19 Torrens Street, Victor Harbor. Our Guest Speaker will be Roger Herraman speaking on *Cymbidium canaliculatum*. Roger will have plants for sale. Learners Group will be held at 1.15 pm.

NEUTROG FACTORY TOUR: Wednesday 22nd March 2023 10.15 am for 10.30 am start includes 45min tour around the site, 20min lab tour, 30min presentation, refreshments. Essential that you contact Anne Steer to book in as numbers are limited by Neutrog. Phone Anne on 0418 840 427. **Do not turn up if you have not booked.**

LUCKY NAME BADGE: Make sure you wear your Name Badge to meetings, you may win a prize.

PUBLIC LIABILITY: Under Insurance Guidelines all members and Committee attending any function or meeting held by the Club must sign and print your name in an Attendance Book.

DEADLINES FOR NEXT GAZETTES
26 March and 23 April

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E-Mail: scocsa@outlook.com
Address: PO Box 314, Oaklands Park SA 5046
ABN 83 245 384 076



Published monthly by South Coast Orchid Club of South Australia
Inc.





YOUR COMMITTEE FOR 2023

PRESIDENT:	Michael Willoughby	0479 162 527
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT:	Malcolm Mangelsdorf	
VICE PRESIDENT:	Kevin Western	
TREASURER:	Anne Steer	8270 3090
SECRETARY:	Marilyn Buckerfield	
COMMITTEE:	Oui Ju,	
	Richard Crinion	
	Craig Humfrey,	
	Phil Steer,	
	Carolyn Ponsana,	
	Alan Miller	

NON COMMITTEE POSITIONS:

Registrar	Phil Steer	0438 891 612
Editor	Christine Robertson	0438 363 940
Photographer	Neil Cooper	
Convenor S. R. Group	Chris Heysen	0419 386 769
Convenors Daytime Chapter	Alan Miller	
	Richard Crinion	
	Anne Steer	0418 840 427
Convenor Main Learners' Group	Craig Humfrey	

LIFE MEMBERS

* denotes Member who has passed away.

1978 Dulcie Grave *	1986 Harry Viney *	2009 Don Biebrick
1978 Leora Harvey	1986 John Nicholls	2009 Henk Van Leuveren *
1978 L. & H. Poole*	1989 Helen Edwards	2010 Dorothy Carassai
1978 Ellie Shaw*	1990 Dr, Keith Northcote *	2011 John and Bev Gay
1979 Syd Monkhouse	2003 Norman Gitsham *	2012 Noel Oliver *
1979 Bernie Hanson*	2005 Merve Steele *	2015 Lesley Fenton
1981 Lois Hanson*	2005 Shirley Steele *	2015 Rod McRedmond
1981 John Leeder*	Circa Tony and Toshy Deonno *	2018 Kevin Western
1985 Brenda Lynch	2007 Ron and Irene Parish	2020 Malcolm Mangelsdorf
1985 Bubs Gready *	2007 Murray Baulderstone *	2021 Donna Meeuwsen
	2008 Geoff and Lucy Spear	

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Subscriptions for 2023 are now due. There will be no increase in subscriptions for 2023. We do value your membership and seeing you at meetings each month.

RATES – One membership covers all groups

Family Membership	\$38.00
Single Membership	\$30.00
Junior Membership	\$22.00

Account Details: BankSA Glenelg. BSB: 105-145 Account No.: 545457040
 (Use your grower number for Reference)



President's Message

Many thanks to Jane Higgs and Phil Steer who gave presentations at the Main Group, and the Southern Region Group in February. This month the presentation at the main meeting will be focused on Virus testing and using available web sites for how to identify your orchid cross if it has been registered with RHS and finding the abbreviation for your Orchid hybrid.

Congratulations to all the trophy winners for 2022 and isn't nice to see them presented to a range of club members, This month the Orchid of the Year for The South Coast Orchid Club will be announced as the voting has now been completed. Congratulations are in order to Dudley and Genny Huxtable on being promoted to First Division.

Coming events include a site visit to the Neutrog plant at Kanmantoo [see the Gazette for further details]: the visit is Wednesday 22nd March. Our South Coast Orchid Club Autumn Show is to be held from Thursday 11th May to Saturday 13th May. The venue will be the Seaford Central Shopping Centre (Details will follow re put in and take out times) and the SA Orchid Fair will be held on the June long weekend, the dates are 10th and 11th of June.

The Club has purchased more virus kits for you, our members. These will be available on the Trading Tables at each of our meetings at a cost of \$7.50 each.

We wish everyone who is sick or has undergone operations a speedy recovery. We miss you all at our meetings.

Successful growing & showing

Michael Willoughby



NEUTROG FACTORY TOUR

A Neutrog Factory Tour has been organized for Wednesday 22nd March 2023. Members should gather at the Neutrog Factory, 288 Mine Road, Kanmantoo at 10.15am for a 10.30am start. We stress that you be there by 10.15am.

The Tour includes a 45 minute bus trip around their site. This will be followed by a 20 minute laboratory tour and a 30 minute presentation and refreshments

The bus only has 24 seats. Should there be more than 24 interested Club members, a second tour will be booked on another date,

It is essential that members book with Anne Steer on 0418 840 427 as numbers are limited by Neutrog.

DO NOT TURN UP IF YOU HAVE NOT BOOKED.



ORCHID CALENDAR 2023

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COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 8th March 2023 7.30 pm
The Southern, South Road, St. Marys.

DAYTIME CHAPTER

Thursday 9th March 2023 2.00 pm
Lou Kesting Hall , Dover Square, Brighton South
Guest Speaker: Kevin Western talking on Cleaning Pots and Equipment and Why. Virus Test Demonstration, Potting mediums,

MAIN MEETING

Monday 13th March 2023 8.00 pm
RSL Hall, 4 Prince George Parade, Colonel Light Gardens
Guest Speaker: Michael Willoughby demonstrating web site and finding orchid names and photos, finding correct abbreviations for generic names , Int. Orchid Register, Orchid Roots

SOUTHERN REGION MEETING

Sunday 19th March 2023 2.00 pm
Carrickalinga House, Victor Harbor
Guest Speaker: Roger Herraman speaking on *Cymbidium canaliculatum*. Roger will have plants for sale.
Learners Group meeting at 1.15 pm.

NEUTROG FACTORY TOUR

Wednesday 22nd March 2023 10.15 am for 10.30 am start
Tour includes 45min tour around the site, 20min lab tour, 30min presentation, refreshments. Essential that you contact Anne Steer to book in as numbers are limited Phone Anne on 0418 840 427.
Do not turn up if you have not booked.

AUTUMN SHOW

Wednesday 10th May to Saturday 13th May 2023
Seaford Central Shopping Centre

WINTER SHOW

Friday 21st July to Sunday 23rd July 2023
Marion Warradale Uniting Church Hall , Township Road, Marion

SOUTHERN REGION SHOW

Wednesday 23rd August to Friday 25th August 2023
Victor Central Shopping Centre

SPRING SHOW

Friday 22nd September to Sunday 24th September 2023
Marion Warradale Uniting Church Hall , Township Road, Marion



Happy Birthday

NEIL COOPER, JIM FOGARASI, JOY GRUND,
HELMUT HERRMANN, JOSEPHINE OGROWSKI,
PATTY ABELL, BARBARA ALMOND, PHIL STEER,
MARILYN JELFS, VAL PHILLIPS, RUTH TUGWELL,
DUDLEY HUXTABLE, DIANE CAWLEY



Is your name in the Birthday Book ??



South Coast Orchid Club of South Australia Trophy Winners 2022



SHOW TROPHIES

W A YOUNG TROPHY

Grand Champion Autumn Show 2022

Neil & Vicky Cooper

HARRY VINEY TROPHY

[Berna and Harry, both Life Members. Donated by Berna in memory of Harrison. Harry worked tirelessly for the Club over many years holding many positions including President].

Champion Laeliinae at Autumn Show 2022

Neil & Vicky Cooper

H & C EDWARDS CLOCK TROPHY

[Donated by Helen and Charlie Edwards. Helen is a Life Member and was convenor of the Day-time Chapter. Both worked very hard for the Club]

Grand Champion Winter Show 2022

Jane & Don Higgs

ROY HILL TROPHY

Best Novelty Cymbidium Winter Show

No Award

TONY DE IONNO AND TOSHY TROPHY

[Donated by Life Member, Tony]

Grand Champion Spring Show 2022

Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju

M NG TROPHY

[Sylvester Ng donated this trophy in memory of his brother Michael.]

Most Floriferous in Spring Show 2022

Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju

ELSIE CHISHOLM TROPHY

Best Novelty Cymbidium Spring Show 2022

Jane & Don Higgs

NOEL OLIVER TROPHY

Best Dendrobium speciosum Spring Show 2022

Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju

ANNUAL TROPHIES

CHIN YEW LIAN TROPHY

[Donated by Silvester Ng] **Best Seedling of the Year**
Paph. fanaticum

Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju

LEWIS MOORE TROPHY

[Rosalie donated a tray in 1999 in memory of Lewis who died in 1989. With Rosalie, he was on the Committee for many years. Both were judges and Lewis was Treasurer. They both loved SCOCSA and worked very hard for the Club]

**Highest Aggregate Points for Australian
Epiphytic Species 2022**

Genny & Dudley Huxtable

STEVEN GAMBLE TROPHY

[Steven, a teenage Member of SCOCSA, loved Australian Native Terrestrials. The Trophy was donated in his name by his parents when he passed away in 1987]

**Highest Aggregate Points for Australian
Native Terrestrials 2022**

Jane & Don Higgs



South Coast Orchid Club of South Australia **Trophy Winners 2022 cont...**

P C LOKE TROPHY

[Donated by Silvester Ng]

Highest Aggregate Points at Three Shows 2022

Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju

JOHN LEEDER TROPHY

[John for many years held positions of Secretary and President]

Most points in Oncidinae Alliance (Meetings)

Laurie & Sue Carter

GLEN FORREST TROPHY

[Glen joined SCOCSA in the very early days, his first love was Cymbidiums, but he also grew other genera]

**Highest Aggregate Points for
Paphiopedilum Species 2022**

Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju

M. & S. STEELE TROPHY

[Shirley and Mervyn, both Life Members, joined SCOCSA in the very early days. Both were tireless workers for the Club; nothing was ever too much trouble for Mervyn. Shirley donated the Trophy in 2007]

**Highest Aggregate Points for Paphiopedilums
1st and 2nd Division 2022**

Gordon Ninnes & Janet Adams

GARARD and WESTERN HYBRIDISING TROPHY

[Trevor Garard and Kevin Western donated this trophy to promote hybridising, one trophy going to the Pod Parent and the other to the Pollen Parent]

Pod Parent

Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju

Pollen Parent

Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju

GEORGE & PATTI ABELL TROPHY

Annual Sarcochilus Show 2022

Bill Jayne

HIGHEST YEARLY AGGREGATE POINT WINNERS AOC TROPHY

Open Division:	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju	228 pts
First Division:	Laurie & Sue Carter	122 pts
Second Division:	Genny & Dudley Huxtable	121 pts

SOUTHERN REGION TROPHIES

VICTOR HARBOR TROPHY

Grand Champion Spring Show 2022

Chris & Lyn Heysen

NOEL OLIVER TROPHY

Best Australian Native Southern Region Show 2022

Peter & Julie Davidge

VICTOR HARBOR AGGREGATES POINTS TROPHY

Australian Natives

Genny & Dudley Huxtable

GRAHAM & SUE ZERBE TROPHY

Best Second Division Southern Region

Genny & Dudley Huxtable

GRACE NOLL TROPHY

Southern Region Aggregate Points for Oncidiinae

Genny & Dudley Huxtable

Congratulations to all of the Trophy Winners for 2022
Very Well Done



2023 South Coast Orchid Club Committee

TROPHY WINNERS 2023



Jane Higgs



Bill Jayne



Michael Willoughby



Sue & Laurie Carter

TROPHY WINNERS 2023 cont ...



Michael Willoughby



Sue & Laurie Carter



Janet Adams



Michael Willoughby

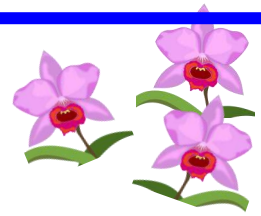


Jane Higgs



Michael Willoughby

**All Photographs by
Oui Ju**



February Results List

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

Open Division

Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std

445 Cym. Harvest Queen 'Golden Harvest' Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556) 3

Laeliinae - Non Standard

441 Cty. Burdekin Honey 'Shona' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

Laeliinae - Species

442 Psh. cochleata 'Friday's Gift' Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556) 3

443 Psh. cochleata Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119) 2

444 Psh. cochleata 'Ty' Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556) 1

Laeliinae - Standard under 100mm

440 C. Mini Purple 'Lea' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

Oncidiinae - Species

447 Gom. flexuosa Vicky & Neil Cooper (1119) 3

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

450 Phrag. Super Nova 'Venus' Jane & Don Higgs (1302) 3

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species

451 Sngl. Woodii Jane & Don Higgs (1302) 3

Orchid Seedling - any Genera

446 Ons. Warm Memories 'Wild Fire' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

Paphiopedilum - Non Standard

448 Paph. Magic Lantern 'GB 512' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

Paphiopedilum - Species

449 Paph. dianthum Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

Specimen Species or Hybrid

452 Cty. Burdekin Honey 'Shona' Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252) 3

First Division

Cymbidium 60 - 90mm - any other colour

436 Cym. lowianum Laurie & Susan Carter (1303) 3

Laeliinae - Cluster

431 Ctt. Valentine Day Phil and Anne Steer (514) 3

432 Epl. Pacific Thrill Peter Haltis (442) 2

Laeliinae - Non Standard

433 Rlc. Makaha Gold x Rth. Karina Millett x B. Peter Haltis (442) 3

Laeliinae - Species

434 Psh. prismatocarpa x Enc. tampensis Phil and Anne Steer (514) 3

435 Psh. cochleata Phil and Anne Steer (514) 2

Laeliinae - Standard under 100mm

430 C. Elisabeth Calov Phil and Anne Steer (514) 3

Oncidiinae - Hybrid < 60mm

437 Onc. Sarcatum Phil and Anne Steer (514) 3

Oncidiinae - Species

438 Gom. flexuosa Peter Haltis (442) 3

439 Gom. flexuosa Peter Haltis (442) 2

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

424 Phal. Unknown Phil and Anne Steer (514) 3

425 Angth. Grandalena Beth Stronach (836) 2

426 Phal. Unknown Phil and Anne Steer (514) 1

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species

427 Coel. tomentosa 'Callum' Phil and Anne Steer (514) 3

Specimen Species or Hybrid

428 Gom. flexuosa Peter Haltis (442) 3

429 Rlc. Makaha Gold x Rth. Karina Millett x B. Peter Haltis (442) 2

Zygopetalinae - Hybrid

458 Galeopetalum Starburst Beth Stronach (836) 3

Second Division

Australian Native Terrestrial - Species

417 Paph. Transdoll Geoff Richardson (190) 3

Laeliinae - Cluster

413 Ctt. Valentine Day 'Red' John & Rhonda Wainwright (549) 3

Laeliinae - Non Standard

414 Cty. Burdekin Honey 'Shona' John Harris (26) 3

Oncidiinae - Hybrid < 60mm

415 Onc. Sharry Baby Coral Tillmanns (212) 3

416 Oncsa. Schimmi John Harris (26) 2

February Results List cont ...

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

420	Phal. Unknown	Coral Tillmanns (212)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species

421	Max. cucullata	Helen McIntosh (299)	3
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Orchid Seedling - any Genera

422	Paph. Transdoll	Geoff Richardson (190)	3
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Specimen Species or Hybrid

423	Oncsa. Schimmi	John Harris (26)	3
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Zygopetalinae - Hybrid

418	Z. (Artur Elle x Unknown 'Chocolate')	Helen McIntosh (299)	3
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419	Z. Unknown	Helen McIntosh (299)	2
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PLANT COMMENTARY

There were a good number of plants benched (38 in total) considering February is not a great flowering month.



ORCHID OF SECOND DIVISION ORCHID OF THE NIGHT

The plant chosen by the Judges was a beautiful *Paph. Transdoll* grown by Geoff Richardson. Geoff has rejoined the club following an absence of some 20 years.

This plant had two beautiful flowers open with a third starting to open. A big flower with reddish brown pouch with spotted lateral sepals. It was also a first flowering seedling. This is a primary hybrid between *Paph. (liemianum x rothschildianum)*.

Congratulations Geoff. At the time of writing, this plant had been submitted to the Regional AOC Panel for consideration of it gaining an Award.

ORCHID OF SECOND DIVISION PLANT OF THE NIGHT

Paph. Transdoll

Grown by Geoff Richardson

Photo Neil Cooper



ORCHID OF FIRST DIVISION

The plant of First Division was grown by Peter Haltis and is a member of the Laeliinae alliance . It was a multiple crossing of *Rlc.* Makaha Gold x *Rth.* Karina Millett x *B.* Madosa.

The plant was carrying a number of heads of flowers in bright yellow. All of the inflorescences stood up out of the foliage making it a very attractive specimen.

Well done Peter



ORCHID OF FIRST DIVISION

Rlc. Makaha Gold x
Rth. Karina Millett x
B. Madosa

Grown By Peter Haltis
Photos Neil Cooper

ORCHID OF OPEN DIVISION

The plant of Open Division was *Cty.* Burdekin Honey 'Shona' grown by Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju.

The plant was carrying four tall inflorescences of lovely starry cream & purple flowers. The flowers were a real standout with the inner parts of the segments being an off white/ cream with the outer parts of the flowers being a purple contrast. A very healthy and well grown plant.

Cty. Burdekin Honey is made up of *Cty.* El Hatillo x *E.* Bees' Knees. It contains four species in its breeding.

Congratulations Michael & Oui



ORCHID OF OPEN DIVISION *Cty.* Burdekin Honey 'Shona'

Grown By
Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju
Photos Neil Cooper

Thank you to our
Judges for a job well
done!

Good Growing !

Phil Steer
Registrar



DAYTIME CHAPTER

Thursday 9th February, 2023



Hi everyone,

The February Meeting was cancelled because of the Hot Weather Policy, We were sorry to have to do it but the Hall would have been too hot. Good news is that the Hall Management have improved the cooling system for the hall so we may not need to cancel in the future.

The Day Time Group will be run by a team this year: Alan Miller, Richard Crinion and Anne Steer. We are planning some great guest speakers. If you have any suggestions please share them.

Please bring your flowering plants to display for members to enjoy and following the meeting stay and share afternoon tea with us.

Even if you attend the Main or Southern Region meetings, the Day Time Guest Speakers are often different. You are most welcome to attend.

Our contact phone numbers are as follows: Alan Miller 0434 052 676
Anne Steer 0418 840 427

We look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

Alan Miller Anne Steer
0434 052 676 0418 840 427

Next Meeting : Guest Speaker: **Kevin Western**
Cleaning Pots and Equipment– Why?
Virus Test demonstration
Potting Mediums

Thursday March 9th – 2pm,
Lou Kesting Hall, South Brighton

VIRUS TEST KITS

The Club has purchased more Virus Test Kits for sale to its members. The test covers Cymbidium Mosaic Virus and Odontoglossum Ringspot Virus in one rapid test. It comes with an easy to follow instruction sheet.

A visual demonstration is available at www.youtube.com/regabiotech

These kits have a long life and cost \$7.50 each. They are available on the Trading Tables at the various meetings..



SOUTHERN REGION MEETING

Sunday 19th February 2023

Convenor, Chris Heysen, opened the meeting at 2.00 pm welcoming the 29 members present. And welcome also to visitor Sonia Jamieson – we hope you enjoy the meeting and become a regular member. **Thank you to John Gay** for his always informative presentation to the Learners Group.

Apologies: Bev Gay, Peter and Julie Davidge.

Guest Speaker: Our guest speaker today was Phil Steer who gave an interesting and informative talk about various options for potting mediums for your orchids. Most long-term growers have tried many and varied mixes before deciding on what suits them best. The right mix for you will depend on a number of factors - possibly the most important being the watering regime that suits your circumstances best. For virtually all orchids the mix should be fairly open and free draining. If you are a frequent waterer then this is even more important. A mix that holds moisture more easily will suit a less frequent watering schedule. There were many tips and handy bits of information in Phil's talk. He provided a detailed set of notes that would be very useful for both beginners and experienced growers. Many thanks Phil, for a very useful talk.

Following this Phil showed a slide presentation of all of the Popular Vote winners for 2022 from both the Main Club and the Southern Region meetings. Members were then asked to pick their choice for Flower of the Year. The winner will be announced next month.

Trophy Presentation and promotions. As Club Registrar Phil then presented the following Trophies for 2022:

Promotion from 2nd to 1st Division: Genny and Dudley Huxtable

Grace Knoll Trophy for Oncidinae (Southern Region) 2022:

Genny and Dudley Huxtable

Sue and Graham Zerbe Trophy for Aggregate points in 2nd Division for Southern Region

Genny and Dudley Huxtable

Club Trophy for Aggregate points for 2nd Division across the whole Club:

Genny and Dudley Huxtable

L & R Moore Trophy for aggregate points for Australian Native Epiphytes:

Genny and Dudley Huxtable.

Southern Region Trophy for aggregate points for Australian Natives (Meetings):

Genny and Dudley Huxtable.

Congratulations to Genny and Dudley who have swept the pool for 2022.

Birthday Prizes: January – Warren Yelland. February – Shirley Grieg

Lucky Name Badge: Elsie Clifford.

Lucky Door Prize: Dianne Cawley

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The tour of Neutrog factory at Kanmantoo, mentioned at the last meeting has now been confirmed for Wednesday 22nd March – beginning at 10:30. It will comprise a tour of their production facility followed by a presentation and refreshments. Those going from here will need to leave Victor Harbor at around 9:00am. **Bookings are essential as numbers are limited by Neutrog. Phone Anne Steer on 0418 840 427 to Book**
- Chris reported on his attendance at the Carrakalinga House Management Board meeting. Previously Shirley had represented the Club at these meetings but has stood aside due to her health. The main point of interest is that the Board is hoping to obtain a grant to upgrade the audio visual system – hopefully, if this happens, it may overcome the feedback problems that plague us most meetings.
- Virus kits are available again – they are \$7.50 each - which is below cost - so the club is subsidising the price to members. See Dianne on the Trading Table.
- Anne gave us a brief on the Financial Report for last year. Basically, although it shows a small loss for the year, the Club is in a sound position financially.

The raffle was held as usual and Chris thanked all the donors of raffle prizes.

Judging: was carried out by Jane and Don Higgs and John Gay.

Judges Commentary: Phil Steer.

Next meeting – Sunday March 19th 2023 – Guest speaker, Roger Herraman, will be talking about *Cymbidium canaliculatum*. He will also have plants for sale.

The meeting closed at 3:25pm and was followed by everyone joining in to share a cuppa and a selection of cakes and biscuits.

Chris Heysen

0419 386 769



Dudley Huxtable is presented with one of his and Genny Trophies by Phil Steer.

Dudley and Genny was awarded all four awards available to the Southern Region Group and also won the Second Division AOC Trophy for the Aggregate Points for the entire South Coast Orchid Club.

Congratulations
Dudley and Genny.

SOUTHERN REGION PLANT COMMENTARY

Whilst there were not a lot of plants benched they were all of good quality.

ORCHID OF FIRST DIVISION

PLANT OF THE DAY / POPULAR VOTE

The plant of First Division was grown by Ruth Tugwell and was *Catasetum fimbriatum*. A well grown plant with one inflorescence carrying twelve flowers and two buds. This species comes from Bolivia, Southern Brazil to Argentina.

The flowers were a lovely greenish yellow with fine hairs on the skirt of the labellum. Ruth has mastered these and obviously has found the right micro – climate in which to grow them.

Well done Ruth

ORCHID OF FIRST DIVISION ORCHID OF THE DAY POPULAR VOTE

Catasetum fimbriatum

Grown By Ruth Tugwell

Photo Don Higgs



ORCHID OF SECOND DIVISION

The Orchid chosen by the Judges was a lovely *Phalaenopsis* grown by Alan Clayton. It was *Phal.* Unknown and was a lovely soft pink. Only a small plant but well flowered.

Congratulations Alan.

Thank you to our Judges, Jane, Don & John.
for a job well done. Good Growing !

ORCHID OF SECOND DIVISION,

Phal. Unknown

Grown By Alan Clayton

Photo Don Higgs

Phil Steer

Registrar

February Results List

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

First Division

Laeliinae - Standard under 100mm

274	Ctt. Tutankamen	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
275	Bct. Hawaiian Treat	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	2

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

276	Den. (Fraser's Red Dragon x canaliculatum)	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
277	Den. TJ's Tangerine Curl	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	2
278	Den. Blue Foxtail	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	1

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species

279	Ctsm. fimbriatum	Ruth Tugwell (613)	3
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Second Division

Laeliinae - Species

270	Psh cochleata 'Millie'	Margaret & Warren Yelland (350)	3
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Oncidiinae - Hybrid < 60mm

271	Ons. Catatante 'Kilauea Karma'	Peter and Julie Davidge (970)	3
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Oncidiinae - Hybrid > 60mm

269	Bcd. Tower of Rex 'Yellow Spider'	Peter and Julie Davidge (970)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

272	Phal. Unknown	Alan Clayton (426)	3
273	Phal. Unknown	Margaret & Warren Yelland (350)	2

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species

280	Sngl. fimbriata	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	2
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DEFLASKING Addendum by Kevin Western

Orchids have evolved to make seeds that are absolutely diminutive. By having such tiny and light seeds the orchids can guarantee those seeds will easily be carried on wind or water for great distances. There are known instances where seeds have travelled thousands of kilometres from Malaysia to Krakatoa in Indonesia or from near Sydney to New Zealand – again thousands of kilometres.

Normal seeds that we are all familiar with are maize, wheat and similar grains, almonds, cashews, macadamias etc and they are large and the embryo comes provided with a heap of starch and essential nutrients from which they can germinate and commence life with only water needed at first to get life started.

Although orchid seeds are so small that instead of a package of starch and general nutrient, they have just a microscopic drop of high energy oil associated with the embryo which the embryo uses to turn on and control a specific particular type of invading fungus. The embryo grows by controlling and robbing the fungus of its nutrient. In doing so, the orchid embryo grows on a portion of the nutrient that the body of the fungus has acquired including the essential macro, micro and trace elements plus carbon compounds and water from that fungal network mass. Orchid seeds then may not begin life having an energy source in its general seed structure but they've learned to turn on a would be invading fungus and draw the nutrient they require to germinate and grow from that fungus.

To raise orchids from seeds then, we need to provide the same range of essential macro, micro and trace elements, carbon and water as they would normally get from the fungus. We have produced formulae which provide the same essential macro, micro, trace elements, carbon and water. Those formulae are rather like a bowl of meat and vegetable soup for Human nutrition. We all know what would happen to a bowl of soup left at room temperature for any time – it would become an inedible mess of fungi and bacteria. Just like a bowl of soup, the orchid nutrient medium formula would grow fungi and bacteria just as well.

As a result, to raise orchid seeds in tissue culture, we must make the medium and sterilise it by heat. We must take the seeds from orchid seed pods when they are mature but before the pods split open so the seeds are still sterile. We must take them using sterile tools and equipment and in a sterile working environment with sterile gloves or with sterilised hands and with superb sterile technique. We can also sterilise seed from split pods by exposing the seeds to either Chlorine (Bleach) or Hydrogen Peroxide at the right concentration for the right time. The flasks we use must be able to breath but maintain sterile conditions within.

DEFLASKING WITHOUT THE STUPIDITY

What I am going to say from here on in is based on my own and others more modern approach to deflasking and it's based on my own failures by applying the garbage that was and is still being promulgated by orchid growers who are living in the past and on my own, more recent, logical approaches. What I have to say will very largely fly right in the face of that old, stupid, ignorant and outdated garbage that is still very generally promulgated by the wider, general orchid community of today – very much, unfortunately, including South Australia. That garbage is based on complete ignorance and utter stupidity and it is one of the reasons for quite high deflask failure rates which still tend to range regularly from 40 – 100% failure. There is absolutely no need for such a failure rate and my friends and I currently expect 85 – 100% survival after deflask. Admittedly some things are easier than others but the Cymbidiums, Dendrobiums, Cattleyas, Sarcocylus, Oncidiums, Zygopetalums we see so commonly grown here in S.A. are very easy to deflask and raise here.

GARBAGE BELIEFS

1. It's claimed that because the flasks of tissue culture are sterile that it is necessary to try to keep them sterile after deflask. Rubbish! The flasks are only required to be sterile because microbes such as bacteria and fungi would overrun the medium and poison it and prevent seed germination or growth.
 - A. It is impossible to keep them sterile once they leave the flask. There so many microbes just everywhere that it's just impossible.
 - B. Not only is it impossible but from the way orchids germinate by controlling a microbe from the very beginning they have superb immune systems that will effectively resist microbial attack as long as we let them. Applying anti fungals and anti microbials may well damage the epidermis of the seedlings and make them prone to attack.

I've seen many a flask where the plants have grown reasonably well and then, by chance, a microbe may get into the flasks and grow. It may be a time before the lab manager finds that and then the plants can still be taken out and potted up with often good success despite having actually grown with the fungus or microbe in the flask with them.
2. Another piece of absolute garbage that continues to be promulgated is that because the flask's interior obviously is near 100% humid, that you must attempt to provide near 100% humidity to your seedlings after deflask. It's claimed that the flask seedlings will not have control over the stomata on their leaves and that they will not have enough cuticle on the leaves to resist water loss and that they will die from dehydration. With very, very few exceptions such high humidity is not only not required – it's responsible for the rot that can take the seedlings over. If one thinks about it even the native Cymbidiums, Dendrobiums, Bulbophyllums, Sarcocylus etc that are found on the east

coast of Australia where humidities of from 45% and greater are common but it must be remembered that there are also plenty of occasions there, that when the wind comes in from the north west, from the west and even occasionally from the south west, the humidity is very low from 10% and the plants have evolved to cope with that. This is generally true of locations where our most commonly grown orchids come from in that they too occasionally experience periods of quite low humidity. Thus our deflasked seedlings are inherently able to cope with much lower humidity than many a twit postulates.

3. Those same absolute twits will also claim that if your orchid flask arrives by courier or by Post, and that if the flask has been jostled and if the agar has ended up among the plants leaves that it has burned the leaves and they will all die. Again absolute rubbish postulated to explain why their seedlings had died for some other reason but not correct. When I replate seedlings into final saleable flasks I plunge them into the medium to arbitrary depths and it does not harm them. I have some cultures immersed in fluid medium and they absolutely prosper. It's all just more total garbage promulgated as an explanation for failure by absolute, ignorant idiots.
4. Some of these same absolute twits blame fertilising for the death of their newly deflasked seedlings. Total garbage! Either they died from one or a barrage of idiotic deflasking practices or the fertiliser solution used was perhaps too concentrated. I fertilise my newly deflasked seedlings with very weak fertiliser every watering and in some cases, I actually stand their pots in that fertiliser. No fertiliser and the seedlings have to exist on whatever nutrient they have within them at deflask so they have little chance to take on nutrient on which to grow more plant structure.
5. Too dark! Poor light levels are often claimed to be best for newly deflasked seedlings. Sure, newly deflasked seedlings generally do better for the first 2-3 weeks under slightly lower light level than their established peers but they need as much light as you can give them without damage. They need light to enable photosynthesis and it is this that allows the seedlings to generate the energy they need to fire their metabolisms for growth and to power their immune systems.
6. Idiots also claim that it's necessary to dry the deflasked seedlings roots off before they are potted up or mounted. Again absolute rubbish. Cymbidiums, Disas, Phragmipediums and, to a lesser extent, slipper orchids absolutely dislike having their roots dried out. I just deflask, sort into sizes, pot or mount and put them in a suitable spot to grow which is often outside in the shade house next to their established cronies and if I'm worried I may stand their pot in a shallow dish of weak fertiliser or water. If the weather is too hot or dry, then I may place them in my evaporatively cooled glass house just until I can put them out with their established peers. Alternatively I used to place them under the benches of their peers perhaps standing in water if the weather was rather hot and dry.
7. There are, no doubt, other absolutely crazy practices or recommendations out there that I haven't come across so far but, take it from me, complex practices and weird ideas just don't cut it. Keep it sensible and simple and you will do well.

Kevin Western



Orchid Culture Notes for March

March sees activity increase in the shade house. After the relentless heat of the summer of 2014, autumn will finally greet us with some cooler nights but the days can still remain hot until about the equinox and most likely it will remain dry. Most years we have to wait to April or later before the first rains of the new season finally signal the end of the dry.

March is generally a maturity month in the orchid house. In the main most orchids would have completed their summer growing season and are in the maturation stage. Already some have pseudobulbs filling out and spike initiation has commenced. Natives have canes that are hardening off and the new growths on *Zygopetalums* herald the flowering season to come. Autumn flowering *Cattleyas* and *Laeliinae* will already have buds bursting. For those with *cymbidiums* the early ones are already spiking and the later ones won't be far off by month's end. Autumn is when things start to move.

Keep up the watering and feeding and be vigilant for the nasties that want to ruin your flowers. This year my problems are in the form of hungry and aggressive bull ants. Super hot ground and a lack of natural food have these critters stripping flower spikes on the early *Laeliinae* in the much friendlier confines of my shade house. If they are not eating the flower buds they are chewing into the growths and sheaths as well as the root tips. I think I'll need a couple of echidnas as a form of natural ant control. The smaller black ants will also be moving soft scale around so keep an eye out if numbers increase.

Closer observations will reveal many orchids have a flush of new or additional root growth this month. This is obviously to pick up more moisture and nutrients to store away for the rest periods ahead. This applies to many different species and in particular natives and the *Cattleya/Laeliinae* group.

Native epiphytes will be maturing and hardening off growths now. It will still be a bit early for any spike initiation for most growers but for me March reveals how good my *Den. bigibbum* collection will perform in the autumn months as these are the first of the native epiphytes to show spikes. These too are showing a flush of new roots. They will all stay in the shade house until the spikes get long and the buds show. Once nights start to dip towards single digits, they will be moved back indoors for the winter and with some luck give me about 3 to 4 months of indoor flowering depending on the species.

Sarcophilus will also show new roots as they emerge from summer semi dormancy. They will look stressed in many cases but the emergence of new roots and the cooler nights will soon have them looking good again. Many will have scorched leaves and in some cases centre growths rotted out, a combination of the heat and too much water in the crowns over night. Most plants will initiate side shoots but good flowering will be delayed. Late March to the end of May is a good time to attend to this genus if you want to divide them. On the terrestrial scene the first few will start popping up now. These are mostly the varieties that show flowers first and the leaves come a bit later. As they do slowly increase the water they receive. For those not showing yet make sure pots are kept cool and slightly moist with moderate shade.

Autumn is the month we see many of the *Laeliinae* complex on the show bench. Many of these are the cluster type, many with *G. bowringiana* as one of the parents. Most are relatively easy to grow here in shade house conditions. Growths develop rapidly over the summer with the sheaths showing as soon as the leaves open. These sheaths fill rapidly with developing flowers. Many are rather heavy and should be staked. Watch out for water based rots affecting the sheaths and also watch out for ants. The honeydew excreted by these orchids attracts them like moths to a flame. They will also eat out the buds and you will lose the years flowers. Hanging plants are not immune to ant attack. Keep well watered and feed with a blossom booster. These plants too show a new crop of roots as the growths mature. Of course it's not only the cluster type cats that are out. There are also a few of the larger exhibition types as well as the mini cats and splash petals. Most of these autumn flowering plants do well in basic shade house conditions and only require to be kept on the dry side and protected from winter rains. They require a very open free draining mix.

Autumn also sees the *Oncidium* tribe presenting spikes with increasing numbers of plants on the show bench as the weather cools. Many will have maturing growths as well and once this happens, spike initiation is not far away. Of course the *Oncidium* tribe is very extensive but as a rule anything of the showy "crispum type" or "varicosum" type will be showing spikes very soon.

Again a rather easy genus to grow in shade house conditions if the right selection is made. The wrong decision will result in disappointment. Keep them moist and always feed at low strength. They are not a hungry genus and can be sensitive to high concentrations of fertiliser salts. Many will require a dry rest after flowering and are one species that struggle with wet and cold winters.



Orchid Culture Notes for March (cont.)

For the new chum it would be advisable to speak to those growers who show *Oncidium*'s to get some ideas. My best *Oncidium*'s grow on a mount and are hung above the cymbs. They are watered daily in summer and fed often and preferably in the morning. They get minimal attention during their resting period and are kept on the dry side. They reward me with numerous spikes every year and are a good indicator to the general health of the collection and the conditions I try to provide.

Your *Zygopetalum*'s and their relations will be showing plenty of new growths and often when these growths are only a couple of inches high will come out the new flower spikes. They are fragile at this stage and susceptible to insect attack. Keep moist and feed with a balanced or bloom booster type feed. Make sure you keep water away from these new growths as well as fertiliser. A couple of pellets of slow release in the crown of a new growth is the best way to rot out most of the new leaves. Try it! I made the mistake last season by getting lazy and broadcasting some of the fertiliser instead of placing it strategically on each pot and I lost a lot of leaves. It won't kill them but the set back resulting from the loss of leaves won't help next year's flowering stakes. The new growth minus most of their leaves will struggle to develop anything even remotely the size of the previous year's pseudobulb. With some luck the plant may initiate a second dormant shoot. Slugs and caterpillars will be on the increase this month so take precautions as they love juicy zygo spikes. Most of them will be hiding under bricks or pots if you have them on the ground. As the older growths mature leaf spotting can become more prevalent. You could try a monthly fungicidal spray to reduce the effects. There is a school of thought as to what causes this, ranging from fungal issues to the weather, light and temperature and an argument I stay away from. Modern breeding is helping reduce this factor and provide cleaner plants. Spotty plants are hard to show and harder to sell.

With the cooler months nearly upon us *Paphiopedilum*'s will be looking for a boost to assist them with flowering. Like many genera it is a temperature drop that often initiates spikes. This is why we spray our cymbidiums at night in December and January and why I put my *Phalaenopsis* outside for a few nights late this month when the nights get down to 11 or 12. Basically my *Paphiopedilum*'s also get a spray at night and the feeding changes to one of higher P & K but taking into account their sensitivity to salts in the fertiliser I make sure they are adequately flushed from time to time as well.

March will also see a significant shortening of the days, this too is another signal to our plants of the changing of the season. As the sun retreats to the northern hemisphere we now start searching for the sun, the same sun that only three months earlier burnt the living daylight out of our plants. I am and always have been an advocate of moving my plants around in tune with the seasons. I enjoy this plant shuffle. To me it's like rearranging the furniture. But the method of my madness has a reason. Plants are moved to get full sun, to stay dry, to get more air or whatever the move entails. A few years of observations has plants that have their own reserved spot each year and why not. If it grows good there why move it unless you think you might do better. Soon my lounge and family room will be full of the tropical species that spend summer in the shade house but would surely die if left out there in winter. This is another example of knowing some back ground about your plant and if you cannot provide it with care in an outside situation then you can improvise.

April is soon upon us. It is a warm month with cool nights and maybe a little more rain. The amount of effort in watering and feeding our orchids starts to reduce now but on the other hand protection and preparation for flowering takes centre stage.

Steve Howard

ORCHID CLUBS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA **General Meeting Times**

THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Whilst COVID restrictions are in place the Club meets on the Second Monday of the month at RSL Hall, 4 Prince George Parade, Colonel Light Gardens. 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 REGION: 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 Plympton Community Centre, 34 Long Street, Plympton 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.



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



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E. & O. E.**