



*March
2004*

The South Coast Orchid Club Inc. Gazette

PRESIDENT	TREASURER	SECRETARY
Geoff. Spear	Robyn Pope	Lucy Spear
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AT A GLANCE

THE NEXT MEETING of the South Coast Orchid Club will be held 9th March 2004 at St Bernadette's Hall, St Mary's at 8pm. Guest Speaker: Russell Job. 'Growing Orchids his way and wise use of water. Please bring along 2 jars, one plain tap water and one with your fertilizer mix to find your concentration of fertilizer salts. See page 7 for some background on Russell

BEGINNER'S CLASS Graham Morris: 'Feeding programme plus bring along all your questions. 7.30pm sharp.

DAYTIME At South Brighton Community Hall, Dover Square, Broadway, South Brighton 11 March 2004 at 2pm.. Guest speaker John Gay on "Cats'.

SPECIES GROUP Monday 1st March 2004 at 8pm. South Brighton Community Hall 1 Dover Square, Broadway, South Brighton.

THANKYOU Graham Morris for last months raffle plants.

RAFFLE PLANTS for March- Sims Orchids; Moss Bray.

LUCKY NAME BADGE Make sure you wear your name badge.

TREASURERS report and audit statements are available upon request

MONTHLY ROSTERS

SUPPER Wendy Lodge & Gerald Voscamp

COMPUTER Suzanne Wilcox

Have an opinion or something to say
contact the Editor Ron Parish

Ph 08 8298 4118 **E-mail vcs@ihua.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.

2004 Club meeting dates

April

5 Species group
13 Main Group
Guest Speaker Graham Zerbe –on display judging
15 Daytime Group

May

3 Species group
11 Main Group Colin Jennings on Award Judging
13 Daytime Group

June

7 Species group
8 Main Group Tom Burian on breeding
10 Daytime Group

July

5 Species group
13 Main Group Ian Kilpatrick on Struggling with Cats

15 Daytime Group

August

2 Species group
10 Main Group David Pettafore
12 Daytime Group

September

6 Species group
14 Main Group Speaker from S.A.R.D.I.
16 Daytime Group

October

4 Species group
12 Main Dave Harmer on Oncidiums
14 Daytime Group

November

1 Species group
9 Main Dave Harmer on Oncidiums
11 Daytime Group

Daytime Group

We had a group of 21 keen Orchid people who braved the elements and a very hot summer's day to attend our day-time meeting. Jane Higgs, our guest speaker, gave a very informative talk on Phragmepediums accompanied by a lovely selection of slides operated by Don Higgs. Thank you both for a job well done. Two plants were benched, 1 by Gerard Voskamp, won popular vote., a lovely specimen of Colmanara Wild Cat 'Camela'. Well done Gerald. The other Enc. Cochleata by myself. The meeting closed around 3.30pm and we all enjoyed a cuppa and biscuits and a lovely chat amongst ourselves. Thank you Graham, Geoff and Robin for the raffle plants. Thank you to everyone who helped make it a lovely afternoon for all.
Regards. Dorothy

Dear Members

It is with great pride that I write my first President's Report of the South Coast Orchid Club. As most of you would know I joined South Coast in the early '80s but due to Lucy and my parent's ill health we took a break from the club for approximately five years.

To follow in the footsteps of the great presidents you have had; Harry Viney, Keith Northcote and of course the hard working Murray Baulderstone, I have a task ahead of me but 'wow!' what training I have had from all the past presidents.

In the forthcoming year we have many exciting guest speakers at the monthly meetings. There will be changes to the Beginner's Classes each month to include a different grower with different genera. There will also be Plant House visits and maybe a trip to the Country Challenge. Lucky name badge has not been tried for a while so wear your badge to meetings and you may win a prize.

As a suggestion, why not bring a friend or neighbour along to a meeting and if they join between March and May you will both receive a plant.

Please feel free to phone me anytime if you have any suggestions that may help the Club.

On the eleventh of January the Club held a luncheon at the Marion Hotel with 22 members and their wives. The Trophies and Glasses were presented to the winners of the 2003 shows. Congratulations to the winners.

Now don't think that because I am a cymbidium grower you are going to get Cym. information all the time. Each month you will receive different genera information. People who know me well think I am only a Cymbidium grower but each month Lucy creeps in a different genera. I think this is the influence of our late friend Rosalie Moore.

May 2004 be a good growing season for us all and I look forward to seeing you at the March meeting.

Regards Geoff

CONRATULATIONS

to Dean Roesler from Kalbeeba who was awarded the medal of the Order of Australia for cultivation and promotion of cymbidium orchids.

Dean is a well known member of the Orchid fraternity in S.A.

COUNTRY CHALLENGE

At Ararat 3 & 4 July 2004

Cost 145.00 per head for the Trip, B.B.Q. ,Continental Breakfast..

Via Southport Bus service and staying at the Central Hotel

Contact Lucy if you are interested

COMMITTEE POSITIONS

Since the AGM your Committee has been working to fill the Committee appointed positions and should be able to announce the names of the full Committee at the next Monthly Meeting.

Species Group

The opening meeting of species group was held at Ron and Irene Parish home and was attended by approx. 25 members. The B.B.Q. meal was cooked by the Club's new President and B.B.Q. Guru - Geoff Spear and the salads to go with his cooking left nothing to be desired.

There were quite a few species plants bought along by members for the group to appreciate and talk about.

A beautiful *Brassavola nodosa* which was brought along by David and Pat Harmer looked very beautiful, Neil Shirley had a *Vanda crispa*, and Russell Job had a pot full of lovely flowers of *Masdevallia* but no one wanted to smell it. Noel Oliver showed us a cute tiny form of *liparis*. and *Sarco hillii*.

Other plants were shown and discussed by the different growers.

It was an enjoyable day with everyone mixing in and enjoying each others company. Thank you Ron and Irene for a very enjoyable Meeting.

Peter Flavel



Br nodosa



Vanda Crispa



Sarco. hillii

The S.A.R.O.C. Orchid Fair for 2004 will be held at the YMCA hall in Walkerville S.A.

dates - set up Friday night June 11th

judging - Saturday morning June 12th

opening times - Saturday June 12th (afternoon) Sunday June 13th all day until 4pm

S.A.R.O.C fair social night (including dinner) an evening not to be missed. fine food and company at the Royal Coach Motor inn Kent Town.

a highlight of the evening being the presentation of major prizes and an after dinner speaker. cost -- \$28-00 per head (deposit of \$14-00 ph before 3" may 2003) seating is limited to 100 people only.

Flower of the Division & Flower of the Night

Lc. Mimi Purple 'Tamami'

grown by Don & Jane Higgs



Ref. No.

Points Awarded

Open Division

Australian native epiphyte hybrid

14 Den x grimesii Bev & John Gay (65) 3

Australian native epiphyte species

13 Den. prenticii Malcolm Tiggeman (465) 3

Laeliinae Non Standard Cluster

9 C. Valentine Day 'Osborne' Tony Deionno (24) 3

18 Epi. Noosa Gold Don S Biebrick (103) 2

19 Epi. Salmon King Bev & John Gay (65) 1

Laeliinae Non Standard Other

10 Lc. Harri-anceps Don S Biebrick (103) 3

Laeliinae Standard < 100mm

16 Lc. Mimi Purple 'Tamami' Don & Jane Higgs (1302) 3

17 Sc. Love Hero 'Hilmanu' Peter & Geraldine Flavel (487) 2

Laeliinae Standard > 100MM

15 C. Rosemary Hayden 'Paradise' Ron & Irene Parish (477) 3

Oncidiinae hybrid

20 Onc. Sarcatum Bev & John Gay (65) 3

21 Colm. Wildcat 'H & R' Peter & Geraldine Flavel (487) 2

22 Onc. Sharee Baby 'Sweet Fragrance' Malcolm Tiggeman (465) 1

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - hybrid

30 Phrag. Mem. Dick Clements Don & Jane Higgs (1302) 3

31 Phrag. Praying Mantis Peter & Geraldine Flavel (487) 2

32 Phrag. Praying Mantis Gerald Voskamp (1650) 1

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - species

27 L. crispa Richard & Beryl Wilson (321) 3

28 Enc. cochleata Richard & Heather Fishlock (134) 2

29 C. harrisoniana Ron & Irene Parish (477) 1

Orchid Seedling any genera

33 Phrag. Mem. Dick Clements Don & Jane Higgs (1302) 3

Paphiopedilum Novelty

11 Paph. Chouvetii Bev & John Gay (65) 3

12 Paph. victoria regina x esquirelei Gerald Voskamp (1650) 2

Phalaenopsis Novelty

7 Phal Brother Lawrence Ron & Irene Parish (477) 3

8 Phal Brother Pico Hunter* New registration Richard & Heather Fishlock (134) 2

Vandaceous Hybrid

23 Angcm. longiscott 'Hilmanu' Peter & Geraldine Flavel (487) 3

24 Angcm. longiscott 'Hilmanu' Bev & John Gay (65) 2

Zygopetalum hybrid (inc. intergenerics)

25 Zga. Dynamo 'Spots' Peter & Geraldine Flavel (487) 3

26 Zga. Dynamo 'Spots' Peter & Geraldine Flavel (487) 2

Best Flower of First Division

C. Kew grown by Rito Silvestri. A well presented plant, well grown for its type. Colour light purple with darker purple lip with pale yellow throat. Well done Rito.



First Division

Laeliinae Non Standard Cluster

4 C. Kew Rito Silvestri (302) 3

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - species

1 Enc. cochleata Suzanne Willcox (1481) 3

2 Onc. longipes Suzanne Willcox (1481) 2

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

3 Epi. obrienianum Terri Rees (50) 3

Best Flower of Second Division

Enc. radiata grown by Ruth & Gunter Eckhard . A clean and well presented plant of 3 inflorescences bearing 8 flowers and 1 bud. Colour pale lime green with a white lip and purple stripes. Congratulations Ruth and Gunter.



Second Division

Laeliinae Non Standard Cluster

6 Enc. citrina x marie Ruth & Gunter Eckhard (436) 3

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - species

5 Enc. radiata Ruth & Gunter Eckhard (436) 3

PHOTOGRAPHS

If you have a particularly beautiful or unusual orchid flower and you are unable to get it to a show or meeting, contact Ron to arrange for it to be photographed for inclusion in the Gazette. No flower is too small (down to less than 1mm). You won't be disappointed the picture is very high quality and will you be able to take it away on a diskette which you can have printed later either by Ron or at a normal 'Photo shop'

The taking of the picture is free and is offered on the basis that we can all share in the beauty of your orchid.

Promotions

Congratulations to the following members who have each met the Club's criteria for promotion from Second into First Division. Unfortunately the publication deadline for the February gazette precluded inclusion of this information as it is necessary for the committee to ratify the promotions..

Terri Rees	(50)
Dorothy Carassai	(294)
John Robinson	(1448)

The Club criteria for promotion are set out in the bylaws attached to the constitution.

From the Registrar

Well our first Club meeting for the year and the AGM are behind us and we are now well into the new year and probably still wondering what fortunes this year will bring with our Orchids. My observations are that each year has something of note such as a poor flowering of a genera (2002 was a bad year for *Den. speciosum*) another year may produce a low flower count on the Cyms. or perhaps a good flowering of some other genera.

We are now commencing on what is considered to be the peak flowering time for Laeliinae and in particular the Cattleya genus. Growers of these should be keeping a close eye on their buds and training these to produce a good display. There are many tips and techniques that can be used to ensure that your flowers are displayed to their best advantage which perhaps we may cover in another issue. However if you need some answers, there are always people at the meetings who would be only too pleased to pass on information if only you would ask.

Cymbidium growers should be finding plenty of spikes starting to show now and it is not too early to start training these from day one. It's not too early to place stakes ready to attach the spikes as they grow. In some case you may need to place a plastic plant label or similar in front of the small spike to force it to grow up rather than out horizontally. You also need to consider, in some cases, whether you will grow the spike vertical or arching. A good example of this that comes to mind is Without Peer 'Soft Touch' which can be grown and look good either way, however care needs to be taken with the training to ensure good results.

Good growing.

Don Higgs

Background on this months Speaker Russell Job

Russell became involved in Water Resource Research in 1968. As a Geophysics Officer in Instrumentation for the Dept of Mines he became involved in the design and building an electronic analogue computer to model the dynamics of the Nth. Adelaide Plains Aquifer. This led to the controls on the usage of the thousands of bores in the region.

In the late 60's a politicised Dam project at Chowilla threatened a saline disaster over the area that had been the Murravian Gulf in a previous Geological Epoch. Russell built a highly detailed computer model to finally end this planning folly. To buy water at the summit of Forest Range where Edda and Russell have their live-in Orchidarium, costs a cent a litre. The conservation of resources has been a number one priority from the beginning of the design and planning processes. The interrelated issues are complex and sometimes unobvious. Recent geophysical modeling has brought a new approach to potting mixes for fussy plants. Alien Europeans proclaimed that "The answer lies in the soil" But from the Australian Rainforests to its Deserts they were dead wrong. The answer lies in the Duricrust Ecology

CYMBIDIUMS

Growers of Cymbidiums who have succeeded in negotiating the recent hot weather with little or no damage to their plants are to be congratulated, however, with the approach of Autumn, considerable sting has gone out of the sun and now is a good time to attend to your plants and obtain the best results from the forth coming flowing season.

Cyms will benefit from a dose of your favourite feeding on a regular basis be it liquid fertilizer or solid.

Flowing spikes will have appeared from the base of mature bulbs or will be breaking through the outer most leaves at the base on new growths. They will continue to appear over the next few months, it is wise to turn the plant and face the developing flower spikes in a northerly direction thus eliminating unsightly bends in the spikes as it develops. If you have any insects, fungal or bacterial problems now is the time to combat these before flower buds emerge from the sheath, if you have succeeded avoiding such problems don't rest on your laurels but apply a cover spray for prevention, it is far easier to prevent a problem rather than waiting till it has a hold. Again use your favourite spray & program. Remember to always water before you fertilize.

If you are troubled with red spider or mite you will find maverik + white oil mixed very effective. Slugs and snails are about and should be eliminated long before flowering season. There are a number of good baits available. Another pest is mice, they eat the pollen caps from the flowers making them useless for cut flowers or showing, a most useful method, is a length of plastic tubing with a cap one end with mouse bait placed inside it, this will then be kept dry and away from your pets.

Air movement is of great importance and is a great help in controlling fungal and bacterial out breaks. A circulating fan of some description will be beneficial in a glass house especially at night due to moist and humid conditions, fungal spurs germinate with alarming rapidity. A few minutes spent daily in the glass house or shade house with the trained eye of a grower ascertains any change in growth habit or diseased development. This will pay handsome dividends when the flowering season commences the flower spikes and eventual flowering is the culmination of 12 months growing and each grower should be prepared to spend a little extra daily time, to ensure this flowering is unimpaired.

Good and Happy Growing times.

VIRUS IN ORCHIDS.

You know or hear stories that Orchid growers believe that virus in orchids, can not happen to them! – It doesn't exist, or only is present in other people's orchid collections.

Well the truth is, that it **CAN** happen to you!

It's up to Members to know what virus looks like and decide on two things:

- * What to do with suspect plants.
- * How to reduce the likelihood of the spread of virus.

SO WHAT IS VIRUS.

There are in fact, several different virus, they are tiny microscopic particles, in the living tissue of a leaf. The most common virus in Cymbidiums, is called Odon-toglossum ring spot.

At this stage, a plant with virus, cannot be cured.

HOW DOES A PLANT GET VIRUS?

Virus is transmitted through the plant sap. Cymbidiums are a prime target and growers are the most likely, to transmit it , due to poor hygiene when handling plants.

This is evident when you consider that Paphiopedilums, rarely get virus, - the reason?

very little handling, cutting, etc. is needed.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO REDUCE THE SPREAD OF VIRUS.

Identify plants which are suspect, and either, get advice about them, or destroy **plant, pot, mix and label.**

Look closely at your hygiene in handling orchids:

- Cutting tools should be used sparingly. If used, then they need to be sterilized by flame or chemical.
- Pots can be reused if the plant was O.K. - they also need to be chemically cleaned first.
- Stakes; - remember to sterilize them also.
- Potting mix, don't reuse and mix it with other plants.
- Wash your hands after handling plants.
- Clean leaves with a separate tissue.
- Remove dead leaves regularly.
- Don't place your orchids too closely together, as the leaves rubbing together, can transmit virus.
- Keep your eye on any new plants that you have bought into your collection.
- Watch out for things like ants, etc. as they may pass on the virus through the sap.

SUMMING UP.

- Learn to identify what markings on your orchid leaves are,(sunburn, salt damage from the water or too much fertilizer, or virus.)
- Separate suspect orchids, get advice, or destroy the plant, pot and label.
(Don't sell the plant to a 'friend'.)
- Have another look at your hygiene and handling of plants. Maybe you can improve your potting system, or your handling of cut spikes, or maintenance of the plant.
- Importantly, remember that having a virus in a plant is **NOT** a sin or stigma!
The thing is to realize that in your orchid collection it can spread to your very expensive or prized orchids, which can be devastating to your presence of mind and costly, in the long run.

Remember, South Coast Orchid Club has a video on virus for sale, which emphasizes the points I have made here.

Richard Fishlock

Note

This is the last Gazette you will receive if you have not paid your Subs. By the end of the March Meeting

Sponsors for our Club

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

Geoff Spear
Gordon Brooks
Graham Morris (Valley Orchids)
Jim Shaughnessy
John Nicholls
Lesley Gunn
Moss Bray (Sims Orchids)
Noel Oliver
Norm Woodend
Pasadena Foodland
Robyn Pope
Ron Parish
Ted & Marjorie Chance

NOEL D OLIVER

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If unclaimed please return to
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