



THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SA INC.

Gazette

October 2026

Patron: Coralie Hills FAOC
President: Michael Willoughby

AT A GLANCE

The next Meeting of the South Coast Orchid Club will be held on Wednesday 7th October 2026 at 8.00 pm at the Marion - Warradale Uniting Church Hall, Corner of Township Road and Church Crescent, Marion. Guest Speaker: Trevor Garrad speaking on Cymbidiums with a short PowerPoint presentation and a practical demonstration.

LEARNERS' GROUP: There will be a Learners' Group Meeting at the October Meeting at 7.15pm. All members are welcome to attend. Bring your problems/plants for discussion.

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 0438 891 612

DAYTIME CHAPTER: The next meeting will be on Thursday 8th October commencing at 2.00pm in the Lounge Hall, Marion Church of Christ, Mitchell Park. Guest Speaker: TBA

SOUTHERN REGION: The next meeting will be Sunday 18th October 2026 at 2.00 pm at Carrickalinga House, Victor Harbor. Guest Speaker: Trevor Garrad speaking on Cymbidiums with a short PowerPoint presentation and a practical demonstration.

NEW MEMBERS: The Club would like to welcome four new members Gordon and Peggy Hampton, Teresa Gaskin, and Eng Roberts. We hope that your time with the Club will be a happy one and that you learn a lot about the orchids that we all love so much.

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.



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YOUR COMMITTEE FOR 2026

PRESIDENT:	Michael Willoughby	0479 162 527
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT:	Alan Miller	
TREASURER:	Anne Steer	0418 840 427
SECRETARY:	Graham Smith	0428 818 586
COMMITTEE:	Oui Ju	
	Richard Crinion	
	Marilyn Buckerfield	
	Phil Steer	
	Carolyn Ponsana	
	Malcolm Mangelsdorf	
	Ralf Brandt	

NON COMMITTEE POSITIONS:

Registrar	Phil Steer	0438 891 612
Editor	Christine Robertson	0438 363 940
Photographer	Neil Cooper	
Convenor S. R. Group	Graham Smith	0428 818 586
Convenor Daytime Chapter	Alan Miller	0434 052 676
Convenor Main Learners Group	Graham Smith	0428 818 586

LIFE MEMBERS

* denotes Member who has passed away.

1978 Dulcie Grave *	1989 Helen Edwards	2011 John and Bev Gay*
1978 Leora Harvey	1990 Dr, Keith Northcote *	2012 Noel Oliver *
1978 L. & H. Poole *	2003 Norman Gitsham *	2015 Lesley Fenton
1978 Ellie Shaw *	2005 Merve Steele *	2015 Rod McRedmond
1979 Syd Monkhouse	2005 Shirley Steele *	2018 Kevin Western
1979 Bernie Hanson *	Circa Tony and Toshy Deonno *	2020 Malcolm Mangelsdorf
1981 Lois Hanson *	2007 Ron and Irene Parish	2021 Donna Meeuwsen
1981 John Leeder*	2007 Murray Baulderstone *	2025 Michael Willoughby
1985 Brenda Lynch*	2008 Geoff and Lucy Spear	2026 Phil Steer
1985 Bubs Gready *	2009 Don Biebrick *	2026 Christine Robertson
1986 Harry Viney *	2009 Henk Van Leuveren *	
1986 John Nicholls *	2010 Dorothy Carassai	

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Subscriptions for 2027 are soon due. You can pay your fees at any time.

RATES – One membership covers all groups

Family Membership	\$40.00
Single Membership	\$32.00
Junior Membership	\$24.00

Rural and Interstate Membership

Family Membership	\$36.00
Single Membership	\$30.00

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

We do value your membership and seeing you at meetings each month.



President's Message

The 2026 Spring Show was held over the weekend of 26th and 27th September. Congratulations are to the Grand Champion Growers Michael Willoughby and Oui Ju with *Dendrobium* Oliver Jack 'Gerard'. First Division Champion growers were Dudley and Genny Huxtable with *Dendrobium striolatum* and Second Division Champion grower Dora Scharpel with *Cym.* Kimberley Spalsh 'Tee Pee'. A big thank you to all members who helped in any way to make the Show a success. The Results and Photographs of the Spring Show will be Included in next month's Gazette.

Guest Speakers this month include Trevor Garrard who will talk at the Main Group and Southern Region Meetings. Trevor is a Past President of OCSA and has for many years been the Co-ordinator of the Orchids in Schools program sponsored by that Club. He will be telling us about Cymbidiums with a short PowerPoint presentation and a practical demonstration. ,

On the 14th November, the Club is running the Bunnings BBQ at Marion Bunnings Store. This is a good opportunity to earn the Club some funds, so if you are able to help, please let Anne know when you would be available. It is a good fun day, so come along.

This year's Christmas Dinner will be at the Morphett Arms Hotel, 138 Morphett Rd, Glengowrie at 6.30 pm on Friday December 4th. The menu is A La Carte and you will be able to choose what you like and individually pay for your meal. Please see Anne or myself for an indication of numbers.

We will still have our traditional Christmas meeting on Wednesday 2nd December with a Giant Christmas Raffle, Kris Kringle, a short Guest Speaker presentation and of course Supper.

It is also time now to think about how one can help the running of our club in 2027. Nominations for the 2027 committee close at the end of the December Main meeting, please consider this. Graham Smith has prepared an article outlining the roles of various Committee members which will be published in next month's Gazette.

We also extend our heartfelt good wishes to all of our members who are sick or incapacitated in any way.

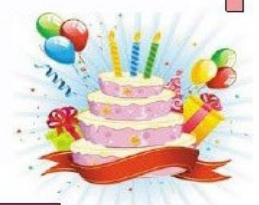
Successful growing & showing

Michael Willoughby



Happy Birthday

**VICKI COOPER, LEE GRAFTON,
SUZY BRATUZ, ANNE STEER,
TANIS REEVES, PAULINE McLEAN**



Is your name in the Birthday Book ?? Please see - Anne Steer



ORCHID CALENDAR 2026

MAIN MEETING:

Wednesday 7th October, 2026 8.00 pm
Marion-Warradale Uniting Church Hall, Corner of Township Road and Church Crescent. Guest Speaker: Trevor Garrard speaking on Cymbidiums with a short PowerPoint presentation and a practical demonstration. Learners Group Meeting at 7.15 pm

COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 14th October 2026 7.00 pm
The Southern. South Road. St. Marys

DAYTIME CHAPTER

Thursday 8th October 2026 at 2.00pm
Lounge Hall, Marion Church of Christ, corner Marion Road and Alawoona Avenue, Mitchell Park. Guest Speaker: TBA

SOUTHERN REGION MEETING

Sunday 18th October 2026 2.00 pm
Carrickalinga House, Victor Harbor. Victor Harbor. Guest Speaker: Trevor Garrard speaking on Cymbidiums with a short PowerPoint presentation and a practical demonstration. Learners Group Meeting at 1.15 pm

BUNNINGS BBQ

Saturday 14th November 2026
The Club is booked to run the Bunnings BBQ fundraiser at Marion Bunnings store. Many hands make the job easier. If you are available to help please contact Anne.

CHRISTMAS DINNER:

Friday 4th December 2026 6.30pm
The Morphet Arms Hotel, 138 Morphet Rd, Glengowrie
The menu is A La Carte and you will be able to choose what you like and individually pay for your meal. Please see Anne or Michael for an indication of numbers.

FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS
and PLANT SALES

10th October 2026
10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Raffle
Tea & Coffee
Free Car Parking

The Lights Community Centre
270 East Parkway, Lightsvue

Entry fee \$5.00

African Violets - Begonias - Bromeliads- Cactus & Succulents
Carnivorous Plants - Cottage Gardens - Ferns - Lilliums & Bulbs
Orchids - Pelargoniums & Geraniums - Palms & Cycads - Roses

Bunning BBQ Sat. November 14th

Bunnings require a number of people to attend a short training session to become familiar with procedures and become a Team Leader.

If we had a team of team leaders, it would lessen the load for the current 2 team leaders. One team leader must be present at all times.

Help needed on the day to man the BBQ.

Please contact Anne if you can help
0418 840 427

September Results List

Ref. No.



Points Awarded

Open Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

985	Den. Brimbank Eclipsed	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
986	Den. (Victorian Flare x Victorian Stripe)	Peter Haltis (442)	2
987	Den. Gracious Cascades	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	1

Australian Native Epiphyte - Species

984	Den. teretifolium	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
983	Den. speciosum 'Daylight Moon'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2

Cymbidium 60 - 90mm All colours in Non-std

996	Cym. (Pepper Blaze x Street Tango)	Peter Haltis (442)	3
997	Cym. (Pepper Blaze x Street Tango)	Peter Haltis (442)	2
998	Cym. Yi-Ying Red Gem	John Seidel (101)	1

Cymbidium over 90mm All colours inc Non-std

993	Cym. Khan Fury 'Inferno'	Peter Haltis (442)	3
994	Cym. Flaming Vision	Peter Haltis (442)	2
995	Cym. (Uluru X Kimberley Hawk)	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	1

Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std

999	Cym. (Kasuda Beauty x Ginger Wall)	Peter Haltis (442)	3
1000	Cym. Canned Dolly	John Seidel (101)	2

Garard / Western Trophy

1017	Cym. (Uluru x Kimberley Hawk)	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Laeliinae - Cluster

989	Ctt. Adelaide Ablaze 'Y&R'	John Seidel (101)	3
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Laeliinae - Non Standard

990	C. Mari's Magic 'Chief Satisfaction'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
991	Rth. Rosella's Fire Diamond	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2

Laeliinae - Species

992	L. anceps var. Dawsonii	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Laeliinae - Standard under 100mm

988	C. Royal Beau 'Dendi'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

1010	Lmc. Yasaka 'Mouliache'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Orchid Seedling - any Genera

1011	Cym. (Pepper Blaze x Street Tango)	Peter Haltis (442)	3
1012	Den. Brimbank Eclipsed	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
1013	Paph. Fanaticum	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	1

Paphiopedilum - Non Standard

1003	Paph. Fanaticum	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Paphiopedilum - Species

1006	Paph. villosum	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
1007	Paph. sukhakulii	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
1008	Paph. venustum	John Seidel (101)	1

Paphiopedilum - Standard

1001	Paph. Saturday Night	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
1002	Paph. Cocoa Pawbella	John Seidel (101)	2
1004	Paph. Fanaticum	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
1005	Paph. William Ambler	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	1

Phalaenopsis Standard

1009	Phal. Unknown	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
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Specimen Species or Hybrid

1014	Paph. Chouvetii 'Van Dyke'	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	3
1015	Paph. villosum	Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju (1252)	2
1016	Paph. Chouvetii 'Van Dyke'	Peter Haltis (442)	1

First Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

965	Den. (Jayden x Australian Rhubarb Pie)	Phil and Anne Steer (514)	3
966	Den. Cosmic Cassidy	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	2
967	Den. Sunset Gold	Phil and Anne Steer (514)	1

Australian Native Terrestrial - Species

968	Ptst. pedunculata	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	3
969	Ptst. pedunculata	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	2

Cymbidium 60 - 90mm All colours in Non-std

974	Cym. Darch Dots	Michael Gray (135)	3
975	Cym. (Janis Lin x South Coast)	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	2

Cymbidium over 90mm All colours inc Non-std

972	Cym. Rosefieldense	Michael Gray (135)	3
973	Cym. That's Outrageous 'Laurence'	Laurie & Susan Carter (1303)	2

Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std

976	Cym. Kristianne Marie 'Kalimna'	Michael Gray (135)	3
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Laeliinae - Cluster

970	Bc. Maikai 'Miyumi'	Michael Gray (135)	3
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Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm

971	Rlc. George King 'Serendipity'	Phil and Anne Steer (514)	3
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September Results List cont

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

Oncidiinae - Hybrid < 60mm

978 Onc. Space Mine 'Red Rendezvous' Laurie & Susan Carter (1303) 3

Oncidiinae - Hybrid > 60mm

977 Brsdm. Spiderman 'Teflon 2' Phil and Anne Steer (514) 3

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species

981 Den. Niitaka Michael Gray (135) 3

Orchid Seedling - any Genera

982 Den. (Jayden x Australian Rhubarb Pie) Phil and Anne Steer (514) 3

Paphiopedilum - Non Standard

979 Paph. Giant Spice Phil and Anne Steer (514) 3

Phalaenopsis Species

980 Phal. schilleriana Michael Gray (135) 3

Second Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

950 Den. Hunter Gaga Pauline McLean (1053) 3

951 Den. Burgundy Cream Coral Tillmanns (212) 2

Australian Native Terrestrial - Species

952 Ptst. curta Pauline McLean (1053) 3

Cymbidium 60 - 90mm All colours in Non-std

956 Cym Peppermint 'Ice' Helen McIntosh (299) 3

957 Cym. (Winter Advent x Dolly) Janet Adams & Gordon Ninnies (1195) 2

958 Cym. Unknown Russell & Joy Gardiner (89) 1

Cymbidium over 90mm - Species

955 Cym. lowianum Peter Schammer (203) 3

Cymbidium over 90mm All colours inc Non-std

953 Cym. Khan Flame 'Tuscany' Coral Tillmanns (212) 3

954 Cym. (Global Vision x Lunar Module) Erica Venning (346) 2

Oncidiinae - Hybrid < 60mm

959 Onc. Twinkle Pauline McLean (1053) 3

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

962 Den. Dream 'Apollon' Ralf Brandt (159) 3

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species

964 Cal. vestita Ralf Brandt (159) 3

Paphiopedilum - Non Standard

960 Paph. LEEANUM Janet Adams & Gordon Ninnies (1195) 3

Phalaenopsis Standard

963 Phal. Unknown Ralf Brandt (159) 3

Zygopetalinae - Hybrid

961 Z. B.G. White Erica Venning (346) 3

PLANT COMMENTARY FOR SEPTEMBER

ORCHID OF SECOND DIVISION

The plant chosen by the Judges was a stunning example of Paph. LEEANUM grown by Janet Adams & Gordon Ninnies.

The plant was carrying eight lovely flowers standing proud of the lush green foliage. Janet & Gordon grow this plant very well and it is a consistent winner.

Congratulations Janet & Gordon.



PLANT OF SECOND DIVISION

Paph. LEEANUM

Grown by

Janet Adams & Gordon Ninnies

Photos Neil Cooper

PLANT COMMENTARY FOR SEPTEMBER Cont

PLANT OF FIRST DIVISION and PLANT OF THE NIGHT

The plant of First Division was grown by Phil & Anne Steer and was a Dendrobium seedling, *Den.* (Jayden 'Goodie' x Australian Rhubarb Pie).

A small plant carrying four long canes with three inflorescences of chunky flowers in reddish/ brown tones with a contrasting pink spotted labellum. The flowers had good shape & substance.

Well done Phil & Anne



**PLANT OF FIRST DIVISION
PLANT OF THE NIGHT
Den. (Jayden 'Goodie' x
Australian Rhubarb Pie)**

Grown by
Phil & Anne Steer
Photos Neil Cooper



PLANT OF OPEN DIVISION

The plant of Open Division was another Paphiopedilum, this one grown by Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju. The plant was *Paph.* Fanaticum.

It was a small plant with the flower standing on a tall spike. A lovely coloured flower with an apple green dorsal over brown striped segments and a lovely white pouch to contrast the flower.

Paph Fanaticum is a primary hybrid comprising *Paph. malipoense* and *Paph. micranthum*. *Paph.* Fanaticum has been awarded on approx. 103 occasions. The flower takes a large amount from its *malipoense* parent which has been highly awarded and used to breed a considerable number of offspring.

Congratulations Michael & Oui

Thank you to our Judges for a job well done.
Good Growing.



**PLANT OF OPEN DIVISION
Paph. Fanaticum**

Grown by
Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju
Photo Neil Cooper

Phil Steer - Registrar



DAYTIME CHAPTER

Thursday 10th September 2026



Hi Everyone,

Our September Daytime Meeting was attended by 15 members who welcomed back our guest speaker. Phil Steer.

Phil provided attending members with a fascinating overview and demonstration of the various means of mounting an assortment of orchid species. Phil provided a variety of mount fixings and base materials, usually inexpensive including some mount material often found in his garden. Phil invited members to select a cutting and mount and then assisted members in completing their first mount to add to their orchid collection. Many thanks to Phil for his time and his generous donation of plants and mount bases to the raffle table.

Following a general discussion members decided the Daytime Group will return to The Morphett Arms Hotel for the December Meeting Christmas Lunch. If a minimum of 15 members confirm, we can return to the Dryden Private Room commencing at 12.30pm Thursday 10th December. Please confirm your attendance with me either by text or your attendance at the remaining meetings. All members are welcome to attend.

Lucky Name Badge: David Suter

Door Prize: Anne Steer



Phil Steer assisting members with mounting their orchids



Popular Plant of the Day:
R/c. Andean Treasure
Grown by Peter Schammer

Next Meeting :
Thursday 8th October - 2.00 pm
Guest Speaker: TBA

Alan Miller

0434 052 676



SOUTHERN REGION MEETING

Sunday, 20th September 2026

The meeting was opened at 2pm with a magnificent display of orchids on both divisional benches that required more tables to be brought out. Apologies from Anne Steer and thanks to Phil Steer for taking the Learner Group today. We presented our newest member Lyal Zanker, with a membership pack and starter orchid to add to his collection. I am sure the club will benefit greatly from his attendance.

Guest Speaker: We did something a little differently this month with a series of small workshops instead of a main speaker.

- **Chris Heysen** kicked off proceedings with a presentation on how to care for *Phalaenopsis* orchids in the Victor Harbor region. A good straightforward session on light and temperature requirements as well as insect control.
- **Phil Steer** was next with a session on mounting orchids. This is his indulgence when he gets the time and has created some very nice presentation pieces this way. Given that the orchids he is dealing with are all epiphytes this is actually the most natural way of showing these plants. He took the group through various tricks he has learned and some very useful tying items that are useful for water management.
- Finally, **Graham Smith** ran a session on sterilisation of tools. It is one thing to tell people what types of sterilisation can be used to clean tools, but Graham told and showed the group exactly how those sterilising agents work so that they are used correctly.

This proved to be a very popular alternative to guest speakers and one that the meeting determined will be a feature at this time of year in future years.

Birthday Draw: Marg Yelland.

Lucky Name Badge: Elsie Clifford.

Judging was carried out by Jane and Don Higgs who also did the plant commentary under the watchful eye of our club registrar Phil Steer. As stated before, there were so many plants on the judging benches that our Judges had to scoot along as quickly as possible so as to have the results by the end of the meeting, but they did their usual extremely competent job and managed the task well.

Meeting closed at 3:20 pm.

NEXT MEETING – Sunday 18th October 2026
at 2.00 pm

Guest Speaker will be Trevor Garrard speaking on Cymbidiums with a short PowerPoint presentation and a practical demonstration.



Graham Smith

0428 818 586

September Southern Region Results

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

First Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

909	Den. Gracillimum 'Dashwood'	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	3
910	Den. Gracillimum	Graham & Janette Smith (217)	2
911	Den. Elegant Glow	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	1

Cymbidium 60 - 90mm All colours in Non-std

914	Cym. Beautiful Dream 'Ruby'	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	3
915	Cym. Khanebono 'Jacinta'	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	2
916	Cym. (Anna Szabo x Winter Beauty)	Graham & Janette Smith (217)	1

Cymbidium over 90mm All colours inc Non-std

912	Cym. Death Wish' Speckled Spreckie'	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	3
913	Cym. Unknown	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	2

Cymbidium under 60 All Colours inc Non-std

917	Cym. Brock 'Felling'	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	3
918	Cym. pumilum 'Ngasire Karingal'	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	2

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

922	Gp. Lady Ramona Harris	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
919	Phal. Cool Water	Graham & Janette Smith (217)	3
920	Phal. Unknown	Graham & Janette Smith (217)	2
923	V. Siriporn PInk	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	2
924	Den. (Claudia x Tweetas)	Genny & Dudley Huxtable (279)	1

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species

921	Phal. amabilis 'Lyn's Elegance'	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
925	Coel. cristata	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3

Second Division

Australian Native Epiphyte - Hybrid

899	Den. Unknown	Margaret & Warren Yelland (350)	3
900	Den. Jonathon's Glory 'Royal Flush'	Heather & Ruth McDonald & Creedy (300)	2

Australian Native Terrestrial - Species

901	Ptst. pedunculata	Heather & Ruth McDonald & Creedy (300)	3
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Cymbidium over 90mm All colours inc Non-std

905	Cym. Pearl Perle 'Jetset'	Margaret & Warren Yelland (350)	3
906	Cym. Green Valley Emerald	Margaret & Warren Yelland (350)	2

Laeliinae - Standard over 100mm

902	Rlc. (Ranger Six x Orange Nuggett x Aussie	Heather & Ruth McDonald & Creedy (300)	3
903	Lc. (Spring Fires x Star Fire)	Margaret & Warren Yelland (350)	2
904	C. Cherry Bee 'Happy Field'	Heather & Ruth McDonald & Creedy (300)	1

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

907	Mas. Unknown 'Sunset'	Margaret & Warren Yelland (350)	3
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Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Species

908	V. cristata var. lilacina	Heather & Ruth McDonald & Creedy (300)	3
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SOUTHERN REGION PLANT COMMENTARY – SEPTEMBER

The monthly bench looked fantastic with 37 plants and a wide range of colour and varying genera, To all members who benched plants, Well done

ORCHID OF SECOND DIVISION

The plant chosen by the Judges was a lovely large Cymbidium, *Cym. Pearl Perle* 'Jetset.' Grown by Margaret & Warren Yelland.

The plant was carrying eight large pink flowers and standing tall of the foliage. The flowers were a soft pink with a contrasting labellum of dark red around the yellow throat. Whilst this is an older crossing it still holds good show bench appeal.

Congratulations Margaret & Warren.



ORCHID OF SECOND DIVISION
***Cym. Pearl Perle* 'Jetset'**
 Grown by Margaret & Warren Yelland
 Photo Jane Higgs

ORCHID OF FIRST DIVISION PLANT OF THE DAY

The plant of First Division was grown by Chris & Lyn Heysen and was a stunning *Gastrophaius* (Gp) Lady Ramona Harris. (This was previously labelled just as *Phaius*.) The crossing is *Phaius Gravesiae* x *Gastrophaius* (Gs) *pulchra* var *perrieri*. The parent *Phaius Gravesiae* is a primary hybrid with *Phaius tankervilleae* crossed with *Phaius wallichii*.

The plant was carrying tall slender spikes clear of the strap type leaves. The flowers were a delicate soft brown with a broad labellum that had a creamy white centre with a lovely purple edging. The inflorescences were each carrying multiple flowers.

The origin/ habitat of this genera are the tropical and subtropical climates of Asia, the Pacific Islands, Australia, and Africa. This wide ranging, variable species is also found at high elevations in nearly temperate weather conditions. It grows in open, grassy fields, in moist, open deciduous forests, and in swampy areas of shady, evergreen forests. It has naturalized at higher elevations in Hawaii and the Caribbean islands.

A plant rarely seen on the bench.
Congratulations Chris & Lyn.

**ORCHID OF FIRST DIVISION
PLANT OF THE DAY**
***Gastrophaius* (Gp) Lady Ramona Harris**
Grown by Chris & Lyn Heysen
Photos Jane Higgs



Thank you to our Judges Jane and Don for a job well done.
Good Growing

Phil Steer
REGISTRAR

NOARLUNGA ORCHIDS AND ROSE NURSERY
180 Commercial Road Seaford Meadows
Phone: 0431 694 905.



Carol and Malcolm have a fantastic collection of roses and orchids, especially Cymbidiums and Sarcochilus. They are very knowledgeable and helpful. Visit them for your orchid and rose needs.



2026 SOUTHERN REGION SHOW CHAMPIONS

GRAND CHAMPION

CHAMP. CYMBIBIDIUM Under 60mm

CHAMPION FIRST DIVISION

Cym. Sarah Jean 'Christine'

Dudley & Genny Huxtable

RESERVE CHAMPION

Cym. Kiwi Midnight 'Geyserland'

Dudley & Genny Huxtable

CHAMPION SECOND DIVISION

Cym. Valley Olympic 'Pink Perfection'

Warren & Margaret Yelland

CHAMPION LAELIINAE

Rcc. Passionata 'Topaz'

Graham & Jeanette Smith

CHAMPION PAPHIOPEDILUM

Paph. Leeanum

Graham & Jeanette Smith

CHAMPION PHALAENOPSIS

Phal. Unknown

Graham & Jeanette Smith

CHAMPION AUSTRALIAN NATIVE

Den. Anne's Rainbow Surprise

Dudley & Genny Huxtable

CHAMPION OTHER GENERA

Not otherwise listed

V, Cedric Sanders

Chris & Lyn Heysen

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR CHAMPION WINNERS

SOUTHERN REGION SHOW RESULTS

FIRST DIVISION

Australian Native epiphyte - Species

Den. speciosum	Dudley & Genny Huxtable (279)	2
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Australian Native epiphyte - Hybrid

Den. Anne's Rainbow Surprise	Dudley & Genny Huxtable (279)	3
Den. Avril's Gold 'Leedham'	Dudley & Genny Huxtable (279)	2

BEST AUSTRALIAN NATIVE

Den. Anne's Rainbow Surprise	Dudley & Genny Huxtable (279)	3
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Cymbidium over 90mm - any other colour

Cym. (Virginia Knight x Rhonda Iffland)	Dudley & Genny Huxtable (279)	3
Cym. Grand Monarch	Dudley & Genny Huxtable (279)	2

BEST CYMBIDIUM

Cym. Sarah Jean 'Christine'	Dudley & Genny Huxtable (279)	3
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Cymbidium 60 - 90mm - any other colour

Cym. Kiwi Midnight 'Geyserland'	Dudley & Genny Huxtable (279)	3
Cym. Gowling's Gem 'Snow Queen'	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	2

Cymbidium under 60mm - any other colour

Cym. Sarah Jean 'Christine'	Dudley & Genny Huxtable (279)	3
Cym. Kiwi Midnight 'Geyserland'	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	2

Laeliinae Non-Standard

Rcc. Passionata 'Topaz'	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	3
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BEST LAELIINAE

Rcc. Passionata 'Topaz'	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	3
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SOUTHERN REGION SHOW RESULTS

Paphiopedilum -Nonstandard

Paph. Lee anum	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	3
Paph. Yi-Ying ?	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	2

BEST PAPHIOPEDILUM

Paph. Lee anum	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	3
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Phalaenopsis Standard

Phal. Unknown	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	3
Phal. Unknown 'Silverlight'	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	2

BEST PHALAENOPSIS

Phal. Unknown	Graham & Jeanette Smith (217)	3
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Vandae Standard

V. Cedric Sanders	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
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BEST ORCHID ANY OTHER GENUS (incl.

V. Cedric Sanders	Chris and Lyn Heysen (1140)	3
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SECOND DIVISION

Cymbidium - All sizes and colours

Cym. Valley Olympic 'Pink Perfection'	Warren & Margaret Yelland (350)	3
Cy. Mary Green	Elizabeth Yeatman (304)	2
Cy. One Tree Hill 'Doris'	Warren & Margaret Yelland (350)	1

BEST CYMBIDIUM

Cym. Valley Olympic 'Pink Perfection'	Warren & Margaret Yelland (350)	3
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Laeliinae Non-Standard

C. Elisabeth Calov	Bob & Robyn Clayton (143)	2
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**Phil Steer presents Dudley Huxtable with
the winning Trophys for the
Southern Region Show.**

PESTS AND DISEASES [From the Orchid Kingdom]

Most orchid diseases are caused by either fungi or bacteria. Identifying which disease is affecting your orchid plants is critical if you are wanting to give the plant the correct treatment. Before we discuss the fungal and bacteria diseases, we ought to first take a look at other non-disease factors that maybe affecting the plant. If the leaves are streaked either brown or black, or become mottled, then this could be a sign of a virus infection. There is no cure for orchid viruses, so the best thing you can do is remove the infected plant away from other healthy plants and see if it recovers in isolation. Probably the most common sign of an unhealthy plant is yellow leaves. More than likely these are just old leaves dying back, or the plant is being fed too little nitrogen. Other causes of leaf yellowing are too much light, loss of roots or the temperature of the room is too low. If the pseudobulbs are starting to shrivel, this could be a sign that the plant is not getting enough water.

Fungal infections usually manifest themselves as small brown spots that eventually turn black. Yellow spots, with a black edge, are another sign of a fungal infection. The main causes of fungal disease in orchids are poor air circulation and a too high humidity. Fungal infections in orchids can be treated with any plant fungicide sold at your local garden store. Another well-used treatment, also available at garden stores, is Bordeaux mixture – a combination of water, hydrated lime and copper sulfate.

If your plant has brown/black smudges on the leaf edges, this is a sure sign of bacterial blight. Providing the infection is not too advanced, treat the plant with Physan. If the orchid's leaves are turning black and wilting, then the best you can do is immediately remove it from other plants and remove all infected areas. Repot the remaining healthy plant into a new pot with new potting mix.

Unhealthy plants are more susceptible to parasites and disease. Low humidity and poor air circulation weaken plants. Be sure to address any of these underlying problems while treating specific issues:

- **Scale** -- These small, immobile brown lumps on the stems, leaves, or flowers can become a persistent problems.
- **Aphids** - Soft-bodied, small insects can be green or black. They usually attack new leaves or flowers.
- **Mealybugs** -- These white parasites look like little pieces of cotton.
- **Spider mites** -- While these insects are too small to see, they can still cause a lot of



Scale on Orchid



Mealybugs

damage. Fine webs on the undersides of leaves and a bronze or yellow color to the leaves can indicate their presence. They like dry air, so keeping the humidity high will discourage them.

- **Snails & slugs** -- These can eat leaves, flowers, or roots.
- **Viruses** -- Unfortunately viruses in orchid are difficult to identify and are usually incurable. Symptoms to watch for include deformed flowers, streaking patterns on leaves, and deformed growth. Discard infected plants.
- **Pets** -- Some animals do not bother plants, but others may chew them. Keep plants out of reach. Protect new flower spikes.

Remedies

- Always try to limit use of **artificial chemicals**, which can be dangerous for you and the environment. Remember that insecticides often kill beneficial insects as well as harmful ones. Using artificial chemicals inhibits Mother Nature's ability to take care of herself.
- **Beneficial insects** are one of the best solutions. Many garden stores sell ladybugs and praying mantises to release in your garden. Spiders eat many plant pests.
- **Soapy water** sprayed on the tops and bottoms of leaves can safely and effectively kill pests. You can buy insecticidal soaps at a gardening center, or make your own using a little mild, unscented soap mixed with water. Insecticidal soaps only kill insects they have direct contact with.
- **Rubbing alcohol** is effective for controlling Scale and Mealybugs. Use a cotton swab dipped in rubbing alcohol to wipe the bugs off. Rinse the alcohol off the plant with clean water afterwards.
- **Insecticides with natural ingredients** that decompose quickly, such as pyrethrins, should be used only when absolutely necessary. Always follow the instructions.
- **Horticultural oils** are available at garden stores and kill many pests. Always follow the instructions.
- **Copper strips** are effective barriers for slugs and snails, which can be very destructive for outdoor orchids.

CLASSIFICATION OF ORCHIDS



When one describes an orchid plant, the species or genus name is followed by a unique name. This name is usually derived and given by the describing botanist. Botanical classification is done in a hierarchical fashion. This means that each higher rank, such as an order or family includes a number of subordinate groups that most probably share certain characteristics. In general orchid classification is a means whereby one can understand the many species better and put them into context. For example there is an artificial classification that divides orchids into groups and can help a cultivator to identify unfamiliar plants as well as provide clues on how to care and grow certain plants. Artificial

classifications include group nomenclature such as **terrestrial**, **epiphyte**, **cool- or warm growing**, etc.

Climate conditions. All orchids are classified as per their preferred climatic conditions in which they can grow and thrive. There are basically three different types of climatic conditions that are used to classify orchids. They are the **cool-climate orchids**, the **intermediate climate orchids** and the **warm climate orchids**.

The cool climate orchids.

Temperate climates, cool-growing orchids, at high elevations to facilitate the cooling of the orchid by cloud cover – Cool-climate orchids grow naturally in areas from as far a field as China to Northern Australia. The orchid that comes to mind immediately is the *Cymbidium* orchids which make up the largest of the potted orchid selections that can be found.

- In the Andes the orchids are cooled by moist clouds in the late afternoon. The examples here include *Odontoglossum* and *Masdevallia* orchids. It has been found that *Odontoglossum* orchids hybridize easily with the *Oncidium* orchid which is a warmer-growing orchid.
- In South Africa, especially on Table Mountain and in Madagascar the *Disa* orchid grows in the cool winds all year round with cold rain and occasional snow falls in winter. They experience high summer temperatures, but mountain streams keep the orchid plant roots cool and make the weather conditions tolerable.
- The following examples are naturally cool-climate orchids: *Cymbidium* orchids, the *Odontoglossum Alliance* and the different types of *Odontoglossum* orchids, *Disa uniflora* and its hybrids, the *Pleione* orchid, the *Zygopetalum* orchid and the *Dendrobium* orchid, the *Masdevallia*, *Brassia* and of course the *Coelogyne* orchids.
- There are also Terrestrial orchids that also resort under the cool-climate orchids. They are the *Cypripedium* orchid, *Oriental* orchids, the *Diuris* and *Pterostylis* orchids, the so-called Jewel Orchid (*Goodyera* and *Ludisia*), and the *Epipactis* and *Spiranthes* orchids.

The intermediate climate orchids.

The orchids classified as intermediate-climate orchids grow naturally in climates that are neither too hot nor too cold. They occur naturally between temperate and tropical zones. The optimum environment for these orchids has a temperature that is subtropical. In this group most of the orchids prefer bright, but not direct sunlight and will be most comfortable in a semi-shaded area. A covered patio is thus ideal. (Tip: create this environment using 40-50% shade cloth.) Of the most notable examples of intermediate climate orchids are the *Oncidium* orchids and their intergeneric hybrids, the warm-tolerant *Cymbidium* orchids, the ever popular *Miltonia* orchid and the *Miltoniopsis* orchid, the different lady slipper orchids or as they are also known, the *Paphiopedilum* orchids. Amongst the *Paphiopedilum* orchids, the *Maudiae*, the *Cochlopetalum*, the Multiflorals, the *Brachypetalums*, the green-leaf species and the *Parsvissepalum* orchids are the hybrids. Then there are also the *Lycaste* and *Anguloa* orchids. And last but not least, the *Bulbophyllum* and *Cirrhopetalum* orchids also form part of the intermediate climate orchids

The warm climate orchids.

These orchids occur naturally in the tropical areas. Warm climate orchids require warm, humid conditions and only slightly cooler winter temperatures. The most significant factor in these orchids' cultivation is the humidity that is required. Tropical areas such as **East, Central and South America** boast many beautiful orchids that occur there naturally. They include the *Phalaenopsis* (or the moth orchid as is it more popularly known) and the lady slipper orchid i.e. the *Paphiopedilum* orchids, the *Cattleya* orchids, the *Cattleya alliance* and its intergeneric hybrid orchid partners; and *Phragmipedium* orchids are also increasing in popularity amongst orchid collectors and cultivators. The *Phragmipedium* orchids come in various types. These types are the shorter-petalled group, the long-petalled group, and miniature green-flowered and of course the *Phragmipedium schlimii*.

And we also need to mention the *Catasetum* orchid, the *Vanda* orchid and the many varieties and hybrids of *Vandaceous* orchids, The *Ascocenda*, *Angracum* and *Aerangis* orchids as well as the *Calanthe* orchid also reside under this group of orchids.

Cultivars and Hybrids Orchids are very complex flowers due to the many different characteristics that have been developed by orchid cultivators. This has a very complex nomenclature consequence. Interpreting orchid named is thus quite important if you have ambitions of becoming a serious orchid collector or cultivator or even an orchid grower. Within an orchid species, any one orchid plant may exhibit features that make it unique within that species. It can be either in size or color. These differences within a species are known as varieties or forms and are usually denoted as follows:

Dendrobium nobile var. *pendulum* where the genus name is *Dendrobium*, the species name describes the orchid flower as *nobile* and the variety is given as *pendulum* meaning free swinging.

The word **Cultivar** is a combination of cultivated and variety and means that the plant has been vegetatively propagated through dividing or cloning, rather than from seed to produce a genetically unique orchid plant. Within a cultivar all the offspring are genetically identical. When a cultivar is named, the customary Botanical name is used and the cultivar name is added to it. For example *Phalaenopsis equestris* 'Candor Violette', FCC/AOS (The FCC/AOS indicates the fact that the plant has been awarded a First Class Certificate by the American Orchid Society.)

A **Hybrid** on the other hand is a cross between genetically different orchid plants. Orchid hybrids are identified by a **grex**. Orchid hybrids, when produced from seed and regardless of variations or form or color share a common lineage and thus are classified as members of the same grex. This in essence means hybrids that have the same parentage. Cultivars may be given individual names, but the grex name will precede them when classified. For example *Phalaenopsis* HiLo Lip 'Candor Violette', where the grex name is HiLo Lip.

For classification purposes and to understand the names of orchids around the world it is best to remember the following points:

- The genus name is started with a capital letter. It can also be abbreviated as in *Dendrobium amethystoglossum* or *Den. amethystoglossum*
- Species and variety names are always in lower case.
- Genus, species, and variety names are always in italics.
- Variety or form is written as 'var.' or 'forma' in Roman typeface.
- Grex names are written in Roman typeface with initial capitalization.
- Cultivar names are also written in Roman typeface, with initial capitalization, and enclosed in single quotation marks.
- Awards are abbreviated and appear in capital letters.

***Cymbidium canaliculatum* by Roger Herraman**

Cymbidium canaliculatum is one of only three species within the genus *Cymbidium* that are endemic to Australia. With its precisely arranged racemes of small flowers in a variety of colours and patterns, it has always held a special place of interest for me in 35 years of orchid growing. It has its own unique growing requirements which, in itself, can present a challenge (especially when grown well away from its natural habitat).



Over the years I have been able to build up a reasonable collection of plants which demonstrate the variability within the species. The strikingly different clones of the northern Australia 'Sparkesii' form could easily make a wonderful collection on its own. Southern forms vary in colour from white through to yellow and the relatively common green-brown, all with differing degrees of markings and colour intensity. There is also an 'albino' form with apple-green petals and sepals and a pure white lip.

Being a predominantly inland species, it requires a much drier cultural environment than either *Cymbidium suave* or *Cymbidium madidum*. I have seen it growing as far south as the Ardlethan area in southern New South Wales with reported sightings even further south around Hay. Its province stretches from this general area up through central and northern NSW into Queensland to Cape York Peninsula, then across the 'Gulf' country into Arnhem Land and as far west as the Derby area in Western Australia. In eastern Australia it is almost always located on the drier western flank of the Great Dividing Ranges. In far north Queensland it may be found much closer to the coast. This environment gives an immediate indication to its cultural needs. While its southern occurrences would endure cold winters and hot dry summers, the northern forms thrive under warmer conditions overall but with pronounced wet and dry seasons.

My plants are housed in a pitch-roofed polycarbonate enclosed structure with no shade cloth canopy. The manufacturer claims a 55% light transmission which should equate to 45% shade. This seems to suit the plants well as I have not experienced any burning on those hanging with leaves less than 30cm from the roof even in extreme heatwave conditions (>40°C). These temperatures are not uncommon in Adelaide over several days at a time during summer with associated very low humidity of 10 to 15%. The majority of plants are suspended more than 2 metres above the ground with only the larger pots and striking backbulbs benched about 90 cm high. (I don't like bending !). Watering is only done weekly during the growing season (November to late April in Adelaide) and plants are fertilized fortnightly during this period with a dilute variety of mainly organic low nitrogen fertilizers.

The slightly alkaline mains water in Adelaide seems to suit them as I do not lime the plants as many growers in the eastern states must. I occasionally flush the collection with rainwater over summer to reduce the build-up of unwanted salts in the pots. During the period from Easter to mid-October water is withheld almost completely apart from perhaps an occasional light splash if we are lucky enough to have a mild winter.

Temperatures inside the growing house range from about 3°C on cold winter nights to over 45°C on those hot summer days. I do not grow any other genera in the area set aside for *Cym. canaliculatum*. This allows me to care for them separately and not have to worry about other plants receiving too little water and humidity. On extremely hot days I occasionally give the plants a mist, mainly to lower the inside temperature.

Louvre windows on the northern and western sides of the house provide ample air movement with hot air escaping through the ridge cap. The house is not sealed in any way from the extremes of weather.

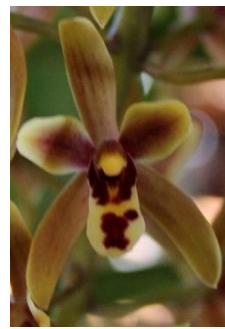
Potting mix consists of medium grade pine bark with a few pieces of large grade in the bottom of the pot, river gravel and a little Maidenwell to help conserve moisture. I occasionally add a small quantity of ti-tree or eucalypt mulch to the mix if it is available at the time of preparing my mix. I try to use deep pots whenever possible.

Potting is an infrequent chore for *Cym. canaliculatum*, with most plants being repotted or potted on every three or four years. They do not seem to enjoy being divided too often as you sometimes may have to wait two to three years before they bloom again.

Flowering time in Adelaide, South Australia generally begins in late October with the southern forms opening first and extends well into the new year with some of the hybrids like *Cym. Helen Bannerman* and *Cym. Kuranda*. The darker 'Sparkesii' forms are the latest to open around mid to late November. I find the hybrids to be very long lasting in my growing area, often staying in good condition for more than two months. I do not know of many orchids that possess this longevity of blooms at this time of the year when they are subjected to such high temperatures.



Cym. Helen Bannerman



Cym. Kuranda

I attempted some pollinations during the last flowering season to see whether I could, perhaps, eventually produce some improvements or greater variety of colour and markings within the species. I tried about 20 reverse crosses using a variety of clones. So far about 30 pods are still swelling approximately ten weeks after pollination.

There are not many hybrids around using *Cym. canaliculatum* but the grexes *Cym. Helen Bannerman* (*canaliculatum* x *madidum*), *Cym. PiedPiper* (*devonianum* x *canaliculatum*) & *Cym. Brown Beauty* (*canaliculatum* x *floribundum*) are well worth having in your collection. I have three distinctly different clones of *Cym. Helen Bannerman*. I imagine the differences in flower colour has come from the various clones of *Cym. canaliculatum* used.



Cym. Pied Piper



Another interesting hybrid is *Cym. Australian Midnight* (*atropurpureum* x *canaliculatum*) with its very dark flowers and late flowering (December/January in Adelaide). When crossed back to *Cym. canaliculatum* (equals *Cym. Son of Midnight*) the resultant flowers are much improved in shape and just as dark. These hybrids are grown in the same area as the species and treated similarly.



Cym. Australian Midnight



Cym. James Webeck (*canaliculatum* x *suave*) is a hybrid I have never been able to obtain so I thought I would try to make it myself. I had previously been told by a number of respected hybridists and experienced growers that *Cym. canaliculatum* is a notoriously poor pod parent while being a good pollen provider. With this in mind I made another 20 reverse crosses using three different *Cym. suave* clones and the same *Cym. canaliculatum* plants as before. To my amazement, after ten weeks, every attempt on various *Cym. suave* plants had aborted and only about five dropped from the various *Cym. canaliculatum* plants. I realise that they still have a very long way to go to reach maturity and anything could happen during the interim period but the initial signs are, at least, promising. So much for 'expert advice'!

Last season was particularly good in Adelaide for reasons unknown to me. Perhaps it was that many plants matured their season's new growth rather early last year with a longer than usual dormant period to follow. I cannot think of any other feature that was different about the season or my culture.

So, if you like a challenge and are not too heavy-handed with the hose, try a few *Cym. canaliculatum* varieties. You will surely be rewarded with some exquisite blooms in a great variety of colours and forms at a time of the year when most Cymbidium hybrids are all but finished.

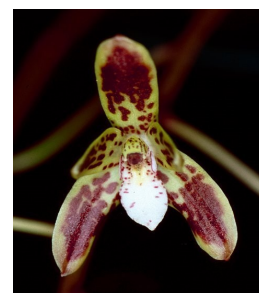
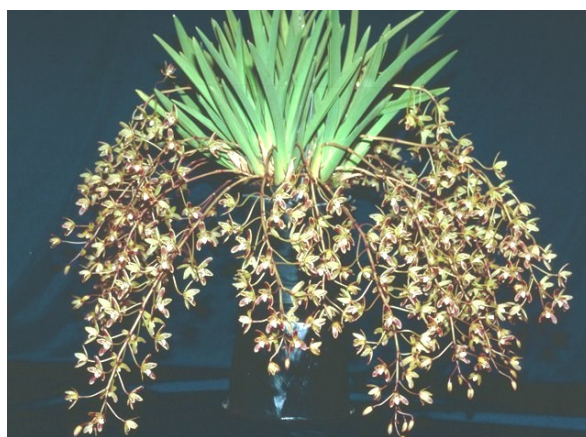
THE AUSTRALIAN SPECIES CYMBIDIUMS **by Frances and Julian Coker**

There are three *Cymbidium* species indigenous to Australia, namely *Cym. canaliculatum*, *Cym. suave*, and *Cym. madidum*. They are found in Queensland, with *Cym. canaliculatum* extending westward across northern Australia to Western Australia and *Cym. suave* extending south to southern New South Wales. *Cym. madidum* is largely confined to Queensland, with only a small extension into northern New South Wales. They are all generally found in association with trees but are more appropriately considered as terrestrial rather than epiphytic, as their roots penetrate the rotted heartwood rather than attach themselves to the sound timber. All are small flowered, have leathery leaves and their leaves closely surround the pseudobulbs. When the leaves fall the bases remain as tight dried sheaths, and sharp spines remain at the dehiscence points. They flower from Spring to early Summer, those plants in the north flowering earlier than those in the south.

Cym. canaliculatum, first described by Robert Brown in 1810, is the most widely distributed and is more tolerant of heat and dryness than the others. It has extremely leathery leaves and multiple inflorescences of densely packed, variably colored flowers, even on the same raceme.

The flowers display four general color patterns, giving rise to four varieties or groups. *Cym. canaliculatum* var. *canaliculatum* is the common form with red brown blotches overlaying a green to yellow background. *Cym. canaliculatum* var. *marginatum* has red brown flowers with a distinct yellow green margin, while *Cym. canaliculatum* var. *sparkesii* is solid red brown to almost black without any green. There is also a rare albino form that is clear green. Because *Cym. canaliculatum* prefers a drier habitat, it is most commonly found on the western slopes of the Great Dividing Range and the western plains in the east and found in the north of its range.

the coastal forests rather than the rainforests in the north. *Cym. canaliculatum* var. *canaliculatum* is typical as the southern form while *Cym. canaliculatum* var. *marginatum* and *Cym. canaliculatum* var. *sparkesii* are found in the north of its range.



Cym. Canaliculatum
HCC/OSCOV CC/OSCOV



Cym. Madidum
HCC/AOC

Cym. madidum, first described by Lindley in 1840, prefers a higher humidity and moisture level and thus grows on the eastern slopes of the Great Dividing Range and the coastal plains. It is characterised by very large pseudobulbs and long pendulous inflorescences with widely spaced green to yellow flowers.

Cym. madidum is commonly found growing in the bases of elkhorn and staghorn ferns or in the rotting heartwood of trees and branches. Plants can grow into huge clumps that flower between September and December, the northern forms flowering earlier.

Cym. suave is found in a narrow band along the eastern seaboard from northern Queensland to southern NSW and was first described by Robert Brown in 1810. It prefers an environment between those preferred by *Cym. canaliculatum* and *Cym. madidum* and is characterised by canes, rather than pseudobulbs, that continue to grow and flower for a number of years. It is found growing in the rotting heartwood of Eucalyptus or between the flaking layers of bark of Melaleuca; it sometimes produces rhizomes that will run for a considerable distance before surfacing and producing leaves. *Cym. suave* requires a considerable amount of sunshine and is the coolest growing of the three species. The flowers are similar to those of *Cym. madidum*.



Cym. suave
HCC/OSCOV
CC/OSCOV



Select forms of each of these species are now grown and their specimen plants make a magnificent display when in full bloom. A protected environment with added heat during winter may be required in the southern states. Because of their individual charm, the fact that they are part of our national heritage, and the variety and extension of flowering time that they provide, the Australian species cymbidiums are worthy of a place in any orchid collection.



Orchid Culture Notes for October

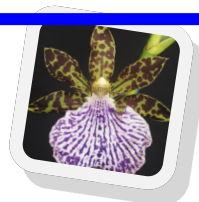
With the shows almost over we return back to our orchid enclosures and commence one of the most important periods in the orchid calendar. It is called maintenance and whether we like it or not, it is an important factor in the upkeep of our collections. Repotting, potting on, dividing and feeding marks what I call the busiest time of the year.

After flowering many of our plants commence a new season growth. This growth can be retarded somewhat if the flowers are left on too long, especially with orchids that hold their flowers for a long time. So the decision is do we cut them off after displays, etc.? This is a personal choice. Some will say in nature they don't get cut off. True. But how many grow here and how many are so far removed from their original parentage that they don't know what they are anymore. My preference is that short lived flowers such as the natives stay on until they drop but those that stay on longer such as the Cymbidiums get about four weeks before I cut them and bring them inside. Other even longer lasting orchids like the Paphiopedilums seem to do okay regardless of how long they stay in flower. Only experience with your orchid in your environment will answer this question correctly.

Other factors to take into account are the size of your plants. A large and well grown plant can support large or multiple racemes but what of a small first flowering seedling or a plant stressed from the previous year division, flowering in a last effort to reproduce and survive. It is best to remove these flower spikes early rather than subject the plant to too much added stress. Some Oncidium seedlings come to mind here, literally flowering themselves to death as a first flowering plant. What about those plants stressed after being in a shopping centre or the show for days on end. I find it best to give these plants a rest and remove the inflorescences. Again I stress, this is my personal choice and it is up to the individual to do what they wish with their plants.

Native Dendrobiums should have flowers cut once they start to droop and lose substance. Spent flowers that drop onto leaves and new growths, etc. soon go mouldy and attract fungal problems. One little insect bite or a damaged leaf will provide the perfect entry point for fungus and in the warmth and moisture of October this spreads rapidly. Now is also a good time to pot on and divide Native Dendrobiums as they commence new growth and re-establish quickly. Look for the commencement of new root growth with the new canes. Don't over pot natives and allow enough for two years growth. This is a good rule of thumb.

Always inspect the roots to see how your culture has been. The pots should have roots growing round and round the inside edge of the pot. They should be white and firm with many growing tips. The centre of the plant has fewer roots and most of these will be previous roots, brown and dead looking. If your roots are sparse all through the mix or rotted then you have a cultural problem. There could be many reasons for this. Too much water, the mix has broken down and become acidic, over fertilising or feeding when the plant is dormant or the plant being cold and wet when it should be cold and dry. This applies especially to the hot/colds. For the newer growers a hot/cold Dendrobium is a hybrid where a cool grower such as *Den. speciosum* is crossed with a warmer grower such as *Den. bigibbum*. It gives you a plant that often flowers earlier or later than most natives. The flowers last longer are usually larger and more colourful than the cooler growers. These are rapidly gaining in popularity. Treat them the same as the normal cool growers during the growing season but keep a little drier in winter and provide them with more light.



Zygopetalums should just about be finished flowering now and large plants can be split. As with most orchids it pays to keep your divisions to a good size of three or four growths as a minimum to ensure flowering next season. Keep an eye out for the Spring looper caterpillars under the leaves from now. They are fond of the soft new leaves of your Zygoes and one or two loopers will make a mess of new growths overnight. Spray with Mancozeb every two months to keep fungal problems to a minimum. Keep water and fertiliser out of the new growths. With fungal problems rife in October your Zygopetalum will be the first to lose growths through rot. At worst it will keep 2 or 3 leaves and will be severely set back, so much so, it may not even produce a worthwhile back bulb, let alone anything strong enough to support a strong growth next year with a flower spike.

Native terrestrials start to look a little sick from now as they begin to yellow and enter summer dormancy. Reduce the watering as they enter dormancy.

New growths on the Cattleyas and Oncidiums start to move now and many will show new roots starting to appear. This tells you they are becoming more receptive to feeding and watering. Aquasol, Thrive and any feed with a high nitrogen component will suffice at this time. With the new roots forming tells you it is also a good time to divide and repot these two genera. The new roots continue to grow to support the division, often with very little set back. Do this at the wrong time and watch your plant wither and struggle.

If you decide to break up an Oncidium or Cattleya/Laeliinae do this before the roots get too long and are easily broken. Secondly if they grow long they become accustomed to an aerial existence and will rot off when placed into the damp confines of a potting mix. Make sure your division is securely positioned in the pot until it establishes.

Sarcochilus will rapidly be showing their flower spikes now as well and it won't be long before we see plenty of flowers. These are one orchid that likes a very weak fertiliser as the roots are highly sensitive. If you see them lose their green tips shortly after a feed then that's the sign that says oops...too strong or I have some micro slugs in the mix. Don't worry, they'll find your flowers sooner or later if you don't bait them now! Keep them moist also as they do not have any pseudobulbs to fall back upon in times of dryness. Rainwater is best if you can provide it and look at increasing the shade levels as well as the sun's intensity rapidly increases this month.

For those that fancy growing orchids on mounts, spring is a good time to start them off as they readily establish when new roots become evident. A good lesson here is to observe the roots. If they touch the mount and die or brown off then they are saying that host is unsuitable. Orchids are wonderful plants. They tell you when something is not to their liking. Learn to observe these signs and you are well on your way to mastering them. Overlook them and your plant will struggle and even die.

Other chores this month involve moving your plants around as the seasons change. I love moving my plants around as I strive to find the sweet spots in my shade house. I provide high light for those that like it, cool shady spots for those that hate the heat and the harsh Adelaide sun. I observe the changing microclimates and most of all make sure I don't grow the orchid that didn't flower this year in the same spot with the same treatment. Plants hung high should be lowered a little as the sun's intensity increases dramatically this month and temperatures rise. Remember these exposed plants will need water more often. With November nearly on our doorstep we need little reminding that a hot and stressful Summer is just around the corner.

Steve Howard

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

THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA: The Club meets at the Marion - Warradale Uniting Church Hall, Cnr. Township Road and Church Crescent, Marion. at 8.00p.m. on the first Wednesday of the Month

THE DAYTIME CHAPTER: meets at the Lounge Hall, Marion Church of Christ, corner Marion Road and Alawoona Avenue, Mitchell Park. 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.

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.

THE GAWLER DISTRICTS ORCHID CLUB: meets at the Elderly Centre 37 Fourteenth Street, Gawler at 8 pm on the 2nd Thursday of the Month.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL ORCHID COUNCIL: Represents all clubs in South Australia on the Australian Orchid Council. Meets three or four times a year, at which meetings all clubs are represented by a delegate or a proxy delegate. SAROC conducts the **SA Orchid Fair** in June each year.



**If unclaimed please return to
P.O. Box 1060 Flagstaff Hill S.A. 5159**



**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.**