

The Orchidaceous Review

Volume 42 No.3

March 2007

The Official Publication of
The South Australian Orchidaceous Society Inc.



Affiliated with
Australian Orchid Council
South Australian Regional Orchid Council
American Orchid Society



Web Site www.geocities.com/saorchidaceous

<mailto:saorchidaceous@yahoo.com.au>

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

Dr Tony Bourne

8356 9523

PO Box 161 Brooklyn Park SA 5032

TREASURER

Mr Robert Gunn

8298 1809



Ptst. nana

2006 Winter Show Champion

February 2007 meeting to be held on the **THIRD** Wednesday of the Month, at the
Western Link Uniting Church
Cnr. Crittenden & Hammond Rds. FINDON.

Next Meeting WEDNESDAY MARCH 21st

The Executive Committee of the S.A. Orchidaceous Society Inc.

PRESIDENT		☎	
VICE PRESIDENTS	Mr. A. Davies		
	Mr T. Jacob		
Im PAST PRESIDENT	Mr P French		
SECRETARY	Dr. Tony Bourne	☎	8356 9523
			P.O. Box 161 Brooklyn Park S.A. 5032
TREASURER	Mr R Gunn		8298 1809
COMMITTEE	Mr. J. Dunn		
	Mr. D. Johnston		
	Mr. K Trevan		
	Mr. R. McNamee		
	Mr. P. Speer		
	Mr. C. Tilbrook		
REGISTRAR of JUDGES	Mr. D. Johnston		
SHOW MARSHAL	Dr. A. Bourne		
REVIEW EDITOR	Mr. T. Jacob	☎	8346 6155
ASSISTANT EDITOR	Mr. R. McNamee	☎	8322 8344
		Email	robba20@yahoo.com.au

Articles in this Review
may be reprinted with
permission from the S.A.
Orchidaceous Society Inc.

2007 PROGRAMME

MARCH MEETING – 21st March

Mr Don Nesbitt is a local and very experienced and successful orchid grower, and he will share his experiences of growing the extensive and showy orchid genus, the *Oncidiums*, this meeting.

Oncidiums come from the general area of central America, and has species which grow cool varying to others which do better under warmer conditions. They cross readily with other compatible orchids like *odontoglossums* and have given rise to many colourful and floriferous hybrids which are easy to grow.

Don will discuss their cultural needs and what sorts are able to be grown under our local conditions His talk will be both informative and interesting, and we expect a good roll-up to hear his talk.

APRIL	Kevin Trevan	Zygopetalums
MAY	Philip Smoult	Horticultural Products
JUNE	Rob Worden	Smaller Growing Cattleyas
JULY	Lesley Gunn	Western Australian Orchids
AUGUST	Alan Davies	Preparing orchids for exhibition
SEPTEMBER	Jane Higgs	Orchid Culture in cool climates
OCTOBER	Tony Bourne	Paphiopedilums
NOVEMBER	Graham Zerbe	Australian Mini- cymbidiums
DECEMBER	Christmas Dinner and Social evening	

Next Committee Meeting:	Pultenev Grammar School	28 th February 2007	8:00pm
Next Judges Meeting	Pultenev Grammar School.	3 rd April 2007	8:00pm
Next SA Regional AOC Judging Panel Meeting:		19 th March 2007	7:30pm
	at Pultenev Grammar School		South Tce. Adelaide

BIRTHDAYS FOR MARCH

Peter French Judith Gardner
Gwen Staples Jill Taylor
 Kevin Whibley.

Congratulations! We all hope you all have a very happy birthday

LAST MEETING

Vice president, Trevor Jacob chaired the meeting last month, the second at our new venue.

Trevor Jacob showed some scenes from last year's Aust. Orchid conference at Port Macquarie, and from the local cymbidium show at West Lakes, and commented on some of the newer hybrids. Our new projector was used for the first time, and will be more and more useful as we become familiar with its operation.

The newer growers group discussion was presented by Alan Davies last meeting, with a number of our members participating. It seems to be a most successful innovation to the early part of our meetings.

THIS MEETING

Wednesday 21st March.

The Oncidium orchids will be featured in this month's talk. Our local expert, Don Nesbitt, has had long experience of growing these colourful and easy-care orchids, and he will share his cultural expertise with us this month.

The newer growers group will be led by Roger Rankin, our Regional Judging Registrar, and is expected to be popular.

Our regular features like library, sales bench etc will be operating.

SUPPER ROSTER; --- Jan and Kevin Whibley are listed to help prepare our cuppa at the conclusion of this month's meeting. Thank you to Murray and Margaret Page who helped out last meeting.

CHEERIO

Kel Staples advised that Gwen has had a fall, and we send our best wishes to her. Life sometimes deals us some tough hands, and we also send our best wishes to Nancy Neighbour who is experiencing some health issues. Stuart Huddleston, too, has spent some time in hospital. Our thoughts are with you all, and to everyone who has experienced any problems lately

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

The Begonia Society will hold its show Sat. 24th March and Sunday 25th March at the **Klemzig Band Hall, 7 O.G. Road Klemzig** from 10am both days. Admission \$2.50

Australian Native Plant Sale at the Wayville Showgrounds Sat 14th April and Sun. 15th April from 10am both days. Gold coin admission.

Enfield Horticultural Soc. Show Sat. 21st April and Sunday 22nd April at the **Klemzig Band Hall 7 O.G. Road Klemzig** from 12 noon Sat and 10am Sunday. Includes orchids. Admission \$1.

SAROC AUTUMN FAIR Set up Friday 8th, Show 9th and 10th June this year at the new location at **Pulteney Grammar School Hall, South Tce. City.**

A great new venue for the popular Regional Show for all financial South Australian clubs.

Victorian Country Clubs Challenge will be held at **Ballarat** this year over the weekend of 6th, 7th, and 8th July. Always many rare and different orchids to see and very good company and friendships to be shared.

GROWING SARCOCHILUS –

by **GEORGE ABELL**

This month, George reveals some of his growing procedures which he so successfully uses in South Australia.



Sarcochilus hartmanii

Perhaps before going on to my method of growing I should mention that I grow them very differently from the accepted method used by the interstate growers I have visited, and probably different to most Sth Aust. growers as well. There are three main differences in my culture and I will cover them one at a time.

1. SUNLIGHT – In the Eastern States they grow them in dark conditions, they say, to emulate the conditions they grow in the bush. They are hybrids or line bred species that we grow today and I am trying to grow them a lot better than they grow in their natural habitat. I have been to shade houses in the Eastern States where conditions are so dark that you have to stop just inside the door so that your eyes can adjust. The plants in these conditions have one thing in common – the growths lay down and their leaves turn upwards. I think this is an indication that they need more light. I grow mine in strong light using sandstone (cream) shade cloth with the shade house positioned so that it gets full sun from sunrise to sunset and they love it! Sunlight after all is the main requirement for photosynthesis, which stimulates growth.

2. POTTING MIX - The general mix used is 15 to 20mm pine bark which I think is too dry for these plants. I therefore set out to produce a mix that would retain moisture without getting too wet. I made up several mixes using various degrees of coco peat, 6mm pine bark, marble chips and maidenwell. I settled on the one that produced the best results. The results have been so good that I will continue to use it ad infinitum. As you would expect, all ingredients are measured exactly.

3. FERTILISER – Other growers use little fertilizer or none at all and are strongly opposed to slow release fertilizers. This is to be expected with plants being grown in dark conditions. I am a very heavy feeder – my axiom is if you want to grow your plants well you will need to have plenty of light and give them plenty of fertilizer I call magic beads. They are designed to make plants grow and flower and will not burn the roots, no matter how much you put on. I also foliar feed daily. You can successfully grow without this, but I think I grow them better with it. I use a 7 litre 'Hills' pump spray with blossom booster from April to September and 'Peters Special' from October to March. Both of these I use at full strength and add 'Easiroot' which is a root stimulant. It takes 10 minutes or so to spray about 2,500 sarcs.

I have no difficulty in breaking up Sarcochilus without them going backwards because the root systems are so good, and with my method of growing the leaves are very thick and retain a lot of moisture, which is very important because they do not have a pseudo bulb. As I mentioned before, I like to break up into 80mm pots. I use potting mix very much on the dry side and I only foliar feed them for the first six to eight weeks, or six if the weather is hot. This spray by hose, with the nozzle set fine, takes 30 seconds to a minute for the whole shade house. From this you will realise that nearly all of my watering is by overhead misting. I do however flush the pots monthly. I have been growing orchids of several genera for about 35 years, and have never been interested in showing them. However, I am genuinely interested in helping people grow their orchids better – or as my wife says "George will help you whether you want to be helped or not".

Good growing,

George.

KEL'S CORNER.

At the last meeting there was a good arrangement of plants and flowers, especially on the Open bench, but also in First and Second Divisions.

In Open Div. Noel Oliver showed a small plant of *Brassia longissima x lanceana*, which nevertheless had an attractive raceme of spidery pale green and yellow flowers.

G & C Himes' *Encyclia radiata* had 3 racemes with 4cm pale yellow flowers with a few red stripes on the labellums, the plant growing in a 15cm pot.

Lc. Marie's Song from Ted Braddock was an attractive splash petal type growing in bark in a 25 cm pot.

A lovely heavily spotted type C. Lulu Blush had 5 strong flowers of a dark red/brown colour and was grown by R & B Wilson, and stood out nicely.

Another interesting plant was A & M Phillips's *Blc Golden Tang* with pale yellow blooms.

On the 1st Div. benches, M & M Pages *Oncidium Kaulani* really stood out with 9 racemes, but only two open of nice pale pink 3 cm flowers. With all spikes open, it will be a spectacular sight and obviously well grown.

A & I Davies had a fine plant of *Burrageara Living Fire* in a 15 cm pot. It had a spray of 9 blooms of an orange colour, with lips also in tones of orange with some spots.

Cattleya Valentine Day 'Osborne' belonging to Brian & Shirley Brand gained the Registrar's Choice. A large plant in a 25 cm pot, it had multiple spikes of many blooms on each and of an attractive red/purple colouration – a superior clone. The crossing is *C loddigesii x C warneri*.

In 2nd Div. Miles Harper's slipper, *Paph (Ballet Girl x Dorans) x primulinum* was growing in a 10cm pot, a pale lemon flower with much potential.

J & R Dunn's *Cym Iris Bannock* was in a 20cm pot with one raceme open, the trailing racemes all had many 2 1/2 cm brown blooms. The Dunns also had *Propabstopetalum Kiwi Sunrise*, which had

smallish green spotted flowers, with yellow lips, also spotted.

The Open Div. had a nice selection of 12 slipper orchids displayed, which all showed very good quality.

When the hall layout for plants is stabilised, we should be able to view the plants better, but all exhibitors are to be congratulated for bringing along their plants for all to see.

Good Growing. Kel Staples.

Assistant Editors Note:

Kel was talking about –

Propabstopetalum Kiwi Sunrise. This is the new name for this hybrid due to the botanists reclassifying many of the species in the *Zygopetalum* group of orchids. The plant was previously known as an *Alangreatwoodara (Agwa.)* which was:

Colax x Promenaea x Zygopetalum

Propabstopetalum (Pbt.) is made up of 3 genera these being:

Pabstia x Promenaea x Zygopetalum.

Colax no longer exists as a species genus.

What I have just explained has been adopted by the Royal Horticultural Society and all hybrids listed in the Sander's List of Orchid Hybrids have been edited to reflect the changes outlined by the botanists.

Sometimes these changes are a pain in the butt as people are so used to the old names and it takes time to get used to the new ones.

COMPETITION RESULTS MARCH 2007

CYMBIDIUM under 60mm

Open Div		
1st	<i>Cym.</i> Morris West	G & C Hime
Second Div		
1st	<i>Cym.</i> Iris Bannock	J & R Dunn

STANDARD CATTLEYA

Open Div		
1st	<i>Lc.</i> Casitas Spring x Love Knot	T Braddock
2nd	<i>C.</i> Hawaiian Wedding Song 'Virgin'	R & B Wilson
3rd	<i>Lc.</i> Rosies Surprise	R & B Wilson

NOVELTY CATTLEYA

Open Div		
1st	<i>C.</i> Lulu 'Pink Blush'	R & B Wilson
2nd	<i>Blc.</i> Golden Tang	A & M Phillips
3rd	<i>C.</i> Medesiae	G & L Speer
Second Div		
1st	<i>Lc.</i> Marie's Song	M Harper
2nd	<i>Lc.</i> Interceps	P & G Simcock
3rd	<i>Lc.</i> Drumbeat x <i>C. walkeriana</i>	M Harper

NOVELTY CLUSTER CATTLEYA

Open Div		
1st	<i>C.</i> Valentine Day 'Rosalie'	G & L Speer
2nd	<i>C.</i> Valentine Day	A & M Phillips
3rd	<i>C.</i> Valentine Day	K & G Staples
First Div		
1st	<i>C.</i> Valentine Day 'Osborne'	B & S Brand
2nd	<i>C.</i> Valentine Day	B & S Brand
3rd		
Second Div		
1st		

CATTLEYA & ALLIED GENERA.

Open Div		
1st	<i>Lctna.</i> Dal's Chick	S & B Huddleston

NOVELTY PAPHIOPEDILUM

Open Div		
1st	<i>Paph. rothschildianum</i>	
	<i>x moquetteanum</i>	P & C Galpin
2nd	<i>Paph.</i> Yospur 'Yosemite Sam'	P & C Galpin
3rd	<i>Paph.</i> Honey	D & J Higgs
Second Div		
1st	<i>Paph.</i> (Ballet Girl x Dorans) x <i>primulinum</i>	M Harper

SPECIES PAPHIOPEDILUM

Open Div		
1st	<i>Paph. dianthum</i>	K & G Staples
2nd	<i>Paph. argus</i>	K & G Staples

SPECIES

Open Div		
1st	<i>Encyclia radiata</i>	G & C Hime
2nd	<i>Epi. Ciliare</i>	T Braddock
3rd		
Second Div		
1st	<i>Z. mackayi</i>	J & R Dunn

MILTONIA/ONCIDIUM/ODONTOGLOSSUM

Open Div		
1st	<i>Onc.</i> Windward Beauty 'Wainae'	N Oliver
2nd	<i>Colm.</i> Wildcat 'Bloodshot'	G & C Hime
First Div		
1st	<i>Onc.</i> Kaiulani	M & M Page
2nd	<i>Burr.</i> Living Fire 'Glowing Embers'	A & I Davies

MISCELLANEOUS

Open Div		
1st	<i>Brs. longissima x lanceana</i>	N Oliver
Second Div		
1st	<i>Epi.</i> Boundii	S Hellawell

SEEDLING

Open Div.		
1st	<i>Paph. rothschildianum</i>	
	<i>x moquetteanum</i>	P & C Galpin
2nd	<i>Paph.</i> Yospur 'Yosemite Sam'	P & C Galpin

ZYGOPETALUM

First Div		
1st	<i>Z.</i> Helen Ku	T Bourne
2nd	<i>Zga.</i> Adelaide Meadows 'Aaron'	G & C Hime
3rd	<i>Z.</i> B G White 'Abbeville'	R & B Wilson
First Div		
1st	<i>Z.</i> Helen Ku 'Green Elf'	K Trevan
2nd	<i>Hmwsa.</i> Aussie Quest	K Trevan
Second Div		
1st	<i>Pbt.</i> Kiwi Sunrise	J & R Dunn

POPULAR VOTE

Open Div		
1st	<i>C.</i> Lulu 'Pink Blush'	R & B Wilson
2nd	<i>Lc.</i> Casitas x Love Knot	T Braddock
3rd		
First Div		
1st	<i>C.</i> Valentine Day 'Osborne'	B & S Brand
2nd	<i>Onc.</i> Kaiulani	M & M Page
3rd	<i>Burr.</i> Living Fire 'Glowing Embers'	A & I Davies
Second Div		
1st	<i>Lc.</i> Interceps	P & G Simcock
2nd	<i>Z. mackayi</i>	J & R Dunn

PLANT REGISTRATIONS

Lc. Casitas Spring x Love Knot = *Lc.* Ruth Gordon's Love

BEST IN DIVISION

Open Division

Paph. dianthum

grown by

K & G Staples

First Division

C. Valentine Day 'Osborne'

grown by

B & S Brand

Second Division

*Paph. (Ballet Girl x Dorans) x
primulinum*

Grown by

M Harper

REGISTRAR'S CHOICE

C. Valentine Day 'Osborne'

grown by

B & S Brand

