

The Orchidaceous Review

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Stuart Huddleston's lovely Colmanara Spring Show Champion 2006

March 2008 meeting to be held on the **THIRD** Wednesday of the Month, at the Adelaide West
Uniting Church Hall,
312 Sir Donald Bradman Drive Brooklyn Park.

Next Meeting WEDNESDAY March 19th 2008.

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

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2008 PROGRAMME

March 2008.

Habitat Conservation for Orchids

This presentation will be conducted by Mrs. Jane Higgs.

We have completed our guest list of speakers for 2008. The only thing to be decided is the actual order in which speakers will attend. We can report that the April meeting will feature our local identity, **Sophie Thompson**, who will talk about fertilisers, and water conservation, and our May meeting will be addressed by our local orchid expert, **Colin Jennings** who will discuss Species Orchids.

BIRTHDAYS FOR MARCH

Happy Birthday to these members who are celebrating their birthdays this month.

Peter French

Judith Gardner

Gwen Staples

Jill Taylor

Kevin Whibley

SUPPER ROSTER

Members who have volunteered to help prepare our supper this month are :-

Pauline & Garry Simcock

Thank you, members.

Next Committee Meeting:	Pulteney Grammar School	24 th Mach 2008	7:30 pm
Next Judges Meeting	Pulteney Grammar School	Tues 8 th April 2008	8:00pm
Next SA Regional Judging Panel Meeting:		17 th March 2008	7:30pm
	Pulteney Grammar School South Tce. Adelaide		

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We had a reasonable selection of orchids on the benches this month for most of the divisions and, of course, from now on we should get more and more every month as the season progresses.

Our guest speaker, Coralie Hime gave us a most informative talk on ferns and brought along a wonderful selection of ferns for us to see - some of them most unusual and not very often seen. Thank you Coralie. Thanks also for the pots of ferns and foliage plants that were given to the members - no excuse now when it comes to foliage plants for the shows!!

I heard this week that there is not going to be any let-up on the water restrictions - bad news - but remember that the rules are different if your orchid house or houses are fully enclosed.

I look forward to seeing you all next month when our talk will be on 'Conservation of an Orchid Habitat'.

Jane.

LAST MEETING

Coralie Hime gave the feature talk last meeting. We have seen in the past that Coralie grows her ferns extremely well, and last meeting showed that she can impart her knowledge to others in a very friendly and informative way.

Thank you, Coralie, for an excellent presentation, accompanied by a fine cross section of examples of fern types. Thanks also to husband, Gordon, who helped carry in the display.

THIS MEETING

Wednesday 19th March.

We've heard Jane Higgs address our meetings before, and members will be well aware of Jane's high quality talks. This time she is going to talk to us about habitat conservation of our own local native orchids.

In these very hot and dry times, we should all be aware of the environment and how we can assist in conserving our endangered plants for posterity. Members visiting Jane's home will be aware of how she puts the principles of conservation into practice at her property at Myponga.

Don't miss this month's meeting

Pre-Meeting discussions will be conducted by one of our experienced members before the meeting in the foyer area. Bring along your orchid -growing queries.

CHEERIO

We would like to inform members that Gwen Staples has suffered a stroke recently, and remains in hospital. We wish you all our best wishes, Gwen, and also extend them to husband, Kel.

Sheila Hellawell is now recovering from her operation, and we wish her a big cheerio this month, too.

Also, we understand that Ted Braddock is recovering, and may be able to return home soon.

Please let the editor know if you know any one who has been on the sick list.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members who have omitted to renew your subs yet are reminded that they are now overdue. Please arrange payment with our treasurer to ensure you still get your Review on time.

Subs. remain at \$20 for single membership, and \$30 per couple, which we believe is excellent value for 12 meetings, monthly Reviews, and opportunities to get growing advice, and to show your plants.

SOCIAL NEWS

For our picnic in the Botanic Park on Sunday 2nd March, we had a very warm day, and lunch was an extremely casual affair, extending into mid afternoon. Those who did not attend missed out on a pleasant day and the opportunity to catch up on the latest gossip.

The picnic gear was finally packed away, and we proceeded to the Botanic Gardens, where our first stop was to inspect the new Schaumburg glasshouse. The outer section contained several orchids, which were severely damaged by the recent hot weather conditions. Badly scorched were sobralias, brassias, zygopetalums, and some cattleyas were just holding their own. In best condition were some Schomburgkia superbiens donated by Ted Braddock last year in memory of his late wife.

A number of bromeliads were also nearly dead with scorching, as were other plants. The house was certainly not suitable for plants under our summer conditions, and how anyone with a horticultural background could imagine plants will survive under open glass in our climate defies any form of logic. Some scorched plants had been replaced since a recent visit, and signs erected noting that steps were being taken to overcome the problem. (Why not a covering of shade cloth, for goodness sake.) The consensus was that it was an architectural triumph, but a horticultural disaster.

Next stop was the elegant Palm House which was completely renovated, and ventilated with fans, and the Madagascan plants are thriving. At the western end is a grotto with running water, where we found orchids growing.

After a cafe stop to top up our caffeine levels, and feed the ducks, we inspected the Simpson shadehouse, which contained some large dendrobiums, and a *Calanthe triplicata* (the Christmas orchid) in bloom.

The superb Tropical Glasshouse was next, where for a small admission, we wandered amongst unusual ferns, palms and insects in a humid but not unbearable atmosphere. Orchids, which were once seen in this house,

were not so evident, only a few tree mounted Dens. to be seen.

After regrouping outside, it was time to go our separate ways after a very pleasant day's outing. Perhaps you, too could consider joining our next jaunt. These outings are organised for your pleasure and participation, and everyone, friends and family are always welcome.

Alan Davies



Palm House, complete with wildlife.



What a nightmare. Fancy repotting a catt. with roots like that!.



Do we really have to get up?



Me Jane. Where's that so-and-so Tarzan?.



Tropical House
Designed by Guy Maron, opened in 1988.



Architectural Artistry, but a Functional Flop?.

KEL's CORNER

The meeting of 20th February 2008 was down a little on plant numbers but the Open Section was represented with a good display of flowers.

C. Lulu 'Pink Blush' from R. & B. Wilson was growing in a 17cm pot the flowers pale pink heavily spotted brown with also a pale pink labellum. There were 7 flowers and 4 buds to open.



C Lulu 'Pink Blush'

G. & L. Spears' *C. Valentine Day* 'Rosalie' was growing in a 20cm pot and had many growths. There were 3 racemes each carrying up to 12 nice cluster red/purple flowers.

Another nice *C. Valentine Day* was grown by A. & M. Phillips; the plant was in a 25cm pot which was filled. There were 4 racemes, the flowers red/brown in colour, each with 9 plus flowers.

There is a colour variation in the *Valentine Day* plants, some flowers are a dull red colour others red/ brown, red/ purple and some quite brilliant purple in colour. All about 8 to 9cm in size and all attractive and worth having in a collection.

Noel Oliver's *Colm. Wildcat* 'Panther' was growing in a 17cm pot, the racemes to over 1m. tall were covered with many yellow flowers and a red spotted labellum on a yellow background, a nice plant.

Den. Fire Coral belonging to G. & C. Hime is a completely different one from those of the hard cane types. This plant carried a nice lot of 7 ½ to 8 cm white flowers with yellow striped orange in the labellum. The plant was growing in a 17cm pot.



Den Fire Coral

An unusual plant benched was *Anguloa brevilabia* belonging to R. & B. Wilson & was growing in a 12 ½ cm pot with 2 bulbs, 1 raceme and 1 growth. There was one 7 ½ cm flower, yellow outside, inside a red/orange colour. Unfortunately the flowers do not open sufficiently to allow one to see the beauty of this type of flower.

D. Higgs lovely *Phrag. Andean Fire* had 1 flower of a brilliant red colour, another bud

and a small bud to continue the flowering. The plant was growing in a cut off 7 ½ cm drink container and doing very well.



Phrag. Andean Fire.

Z. Kiwi Choice 'Eileen' belonging to R. & L. Gunn was growing in a 20cm pot and having 5 flowers on 1 raceme of green heavily barred brown, the labellum was purple with a white tip.

There were three seedlings belonging to the owners, *Z. Artur Elle* 'Essendon' X *Z. Jade Dragon* 'Chocolate with brown petals and purple lips, 2 seedlings were very similar whilst the other was different in several ways. Seedlings even from the same crossings can vary, - interesting to make comparisons.

On the First Division a plant of *Srts. Toowoomba Sparkle* 'Coconut Ice' grown by K. Trevan looked like a small *Vanda* but with strong 5cm wide leaves. The plant was growing in a 20cm squat pot. There were ten 5cm white flowers spotted pink. Looking at the plant it could be seen that it is a very regular flowerer by all the old racemes visible between the leaves.

J & R Dunn's *Den. Autumn* x *Rutherford Starburst* had one spike of green, with faint spots and a pink labellum, nice blooms with much potential for the future.

Another fine *C Valentine Day* 'Osborne' from B & S Brand, had a 20cm pot with 6 canes, and a nice head of 12 blooms red/brown in colour.

M & M Pages' *Oncid. Kaulani* was growing strongly in a 12 cm pot, with two fine raceme of small pink blooms – always an attractive *oncidium*.

In Second Div. a newer member, B Semmens had a magnificently growing cattleya plant almost $\frac{3}{4}$ metre across. There were 4 racemes of 4/5 flowers in deep pink open, but with many more buds coming along. This plant will look a picture when the blooms open, and with excellent foliage, too.

All plants are welcomed with the difficult growing conditions we have been experiencing, but all plants tabled looked well, and showed evidence of good culture, and are a credit to the owners.

Keep up the good work..

Kel Staples.

DATES FOR YOUR SOCIAL CALENDAR

Advance notice – Alan Davies is negotiating with the Gorge Wildlife Park for a picnic there on Sunday May 4th. Price is likely to be about \$10 per adult. This was very successful on a previous occasion, when members brought along family members for a great day amongst the animals. (Port barrackers welcome to cuddle the black panther.)

Barbecue facilities would be available.

The Begonia Society will hold their show at the Klemzig Band Hall 7 OG Rd. next weekend 15th and 16th March.

The Bromeliad Society will also have their show on the same weekend at the Maltese Centre 6 Jeanes St Beverley, 10am – 4pm.. Free admission, but get there early to get all the best broms. for sale.

The Enfield Horticultural Soc. will hold their Autumn Show at the Klemzig Band Hall on 19th & 20th April. this year. Many plants for sale.

National Cym, Show this year will be held in S.A. on August 23rd and 24th. – a must for cymbidium growers, at Noarlunga Leisure Centre, (near Colonnades Shopping Centre).at David Witton Drive, Noarlunga Centre.

P'raps we could arrange a group visit.? -

THANK YOU.

Mrs Elva Shawyer, our Life Member, has donated a projection screen to our Society. Which will be brought along for use as required at our meetings.

Thank you, Elva. Still thinking of our Society after 43 years of service.

PROPAGATING PHAIUS.

Phaius tankervilleae is a very desirable Australian terrestrial orchid, large and spectacular, which may explain why it is now rare in its natural swampy habitat.

I remember our old member, the late Mr. Merv Green explain how it can be propagated from the flowering stem of the plant. Along the stem, where the bracts join the main stem, there are dormant eyes which can be stimulated to grow and provide new plants. The trick is to place cut lengths of stem containing an eye on sphagnum moss, and place them in warm, humid conditions. With luck, the eyes will develop and provide you with new small plants which develop like the usual keikis found on native dendrobiums.

Another method which I've heard about is to place sections of stem with two eyes in a jar of water, with the top of the stem above the water level, with the nodes submerged. After the eyes develop roots and leaves, the stem is cut and the plantlet allowed to grow normally, with adequate light, warmth and humidity.

I've noticed zygopetalum flower stems with eyes on occasion, so perhaps this method maybe worth a try if you have a suitable stem.

COMPETITION RESULTS FEBRUARY 2008

STANDARD CATTLEYA

Open Div		
1st	<i>C. Hawaiian Wedding Song 'Virgin'</i>	K & G Staples
2nd	<i>Blc. Ronald Hausermann 'Karl'</i>	K & G Staples

NOVELTY CATTLEYA

Open Div		
1st	<i>C. Lulu 'Pink Blush'</i>	R & B Wilson
2nd	<i>Blc. Golden Tang</i>	A & M Phillips
3rd	<i>L. Rubin</i>	C & N Grigg
Second Div		
1st	<i>C. Meadii</i>	B Semmens

NOVELTY CLUSTER CATTLEYA

Open Div		
1st	<i>C. Valentine Day 'Rosalie'</i>	G & L Spear
2nd	<i>C. Valentine Day</i>	A & M Phillips
First Div		
1st	<i>C. Valentine Day 'Osborne'</i>	B & S Brand
2nd	<i>C. Kew</i>	P & V Speer
3rd	<i>C. Valentine Day 'Osborne'</i>	B & s Brand

CATTLEYA & ALLIED GENERA.

Open Div		
1st	<i>Bl. Richard Mueller x L. tenebrosa</i>	K & G Staples
2nd	<i>Otr. Hidden Gold</i>	S & B Huddleston

NOVELTY PAPHIOPEDILUM

Open Div		
1st	<i>Paph. Pinocchio</i>	T Bourne
2nd	<i>Paph. Tony Semple</i>	P McCauley
3rd	<i>Paph. Delophyllum 'Star Dust'</i>	K & G Staples

SPECIES PAPHIOPEDILUM

Open Div		
1st	<i>Paph. lowii</i>	P McCauley

SPECIES

Open Div		
1st	<i>Anguloa brevilabris</i>	R & B Wilson
2nd	<i>C. maxima</i>	R & B Wilson

DENDROBIUM

Open Div		
1st	<i>Den. Fire Coral</i>	G & C Hime

AUSTRALIAN NATIVE EPIPHYTE Hybrid

First Div		
1st	<i>Den. Awesome 'Omega'</i>	J & R Dunn
2nd	<i>Den. Autumn x Rutherford Starburst</i>	J & R Dunn

AUSTRALIAN NATIVE EPIPHYTE SPECIES

Open Div		
1st	<i>Dock. cucumrinum</i>	N Oliver

MILTONIA/ONCIDIUM/ODONTOGLOSSUM

Open Div		
1st	<i>Colm. Wildcat</i>	N Oliver
2nd	<i>Onc. Sharry Baby</i>	S & B Huddleston
First Div		
1st	<i>Onc. Kaiulani</i>	M & N Page

MISCELLANEOUS

Open Div		
1st	<i>Phrag. Andean Fire</i>	D & J Higgs
2nd	<i>Phrag. Peseus 'Highclare'</i>	D & J Higgs
First Div		
1st	<i>Srts. Toowoomba Sparkle 'Coconut Ice'</i>	K Trevan

SEEDLING

Open Div.		
1st	<i>Z. Artur Elle x Jade Dragon</i>	R & L Gunn
2nd	<i>Z. Artur Elle x Jade Dragon</i>	R & L Gunn
3rd	<i>Angulycaste Karool x Lyc. Elizabeth</i>	G & C Hime
First Div		
1st	<i>Prom. Cachaca</i>	K Trevan
2nd	<i>Z. Kiwi Choice x Inky Dink</i>	K Trevan

ZYGOPETALUM

Open Div		
1st	<i>Z. Artur Elle x Jade Dragon</i>	R & L Gunn
2nd	<i>Z. Kiwi Choice</i>	R & L Gunn
First Div		
1st	<i>Zga. Maverick 'Card Shark'</i>	K Trevan
2nd	<i>Prom Cachaca</i>	K Trevan
3rd	<i>Z. Kiwi Choice x Inky Dink</i>	K Trevan

POPULAR VOTE

Open Div		
1st	<i>Colm. Wildcat</i>	N Oliver
2nd	<i>C. Lulu 'Pink Blush'</i>	R & B Wilson
3rd	<i>C. Valentine Day 'Rosalie'</i>	G & L Spear
First Div		
1st	<i>Onc. Kaiulani</i>	M & N Page
2nd	<i>Srts. Toowoomba Sparkle 'Coconut Ice'</i>	K Trevan
2nd	<i>C. Valentine Day 'Osborne'</i>	B & S Brand
Second Div		
1st	<i>C. Meadii</i>	B Semmens

BEST IN DIVISION

Open Division

Colm. Wildcat

grown by **N Oliver**

First Division

C. Valentine Day 'Osborne'

grown by **B & S Brand**

Second Division

C. Meadii

Grown by **B Semmens**

REGISTRAR'S CHOICE

Colm. Wildcat

grown by **N Oliver**