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Web Site

www.saorchidsociety.org

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This intriguing hybrid Catasetum (tigrinum x fimbriatum) was Best Open Div. & Registrar's choice for Richard & Beryl Wilson last month.

May. meeting on the **Third** Wednesday of the month at the Adelaide West Uniting Church hall. 312 Sir Donald Bradman Drive Brooklyn Park. **Hall opens 7pm for 8 pm start.**

Next Meeting WEDNESDAY May 16th 2018.

The Executive Committee of the S.A. Orchidaceous Society Inc.		
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REGISTRAR of JUDGES SHOW MARSHAL REVIEW EDITOR	Mr. Don Higgs Mr K Gurney Mr. T. Jacob	≅ 8346 6155

LIFE MEMBERS

Brian Brand Shirley Brand Alan Davies, Iris Davies, Kevin Gurney, Trevor Jacob, Margaret Jacob, Deane Johnston and Kel Staples.

2018 PROGRAMME May 16th 2018.

Anton Drew has made a specialty of growing unusual genera, notably coelogynes. in his special purpose plant house

He will tell us what he grows, and importantly, how he grows them. Anton has had spectacular success with his culture since he has got the conditions right. His tips on fertilising will be especially of interest to orchid growers. Join us this month, and be prepared to be impressed.

Birthdays for May 2018.

Happy Birthday to these members who are having birthdays this month. . .

Patricia Carman Pat. Lampard Pauline Simcock Geoff Spear.

Supper roster this month Iris Davies and Jan Whibley have volunteered to help serve our traditional cuppa at the end of this month's meeting. Last month, Iris and Margaret Jacob helped serve our cuppa at the conclusion of the meeting. Murray and Margaret Page were rostered last meeting, but Murray has run into a patch of ill health, and couldn't make it. We send him a big cheerio.

Next Committee Meeting:Pulteney Grammar SchoolMonday 21st May7.30pmNext Judges MeetingPulteney Grammar SchoolMonday 6th August7.30pmNext SA Regional Judging Panel Meeting:Pulteney Grammar SchoolTues.June 12th 7.30pm

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We have received advice that our member and Past Registrar of the SA Regional Judging panel for many years, Roger Rankin is seriously ill in hospital. We send Roger and Pauline our very best wishes and support.

Roger took his duties as Registrar very seriously, visiting, judging and organising judges at many orchid club shows around the State, and interstate, too. Not an easy responsibility at times, Roger and Pauline ably put our Regional views at the AOC Judging meetings over many years now before indifferent health forced him to pass the baton along..

John Seidel's undoubted expertise in photography was on display last meeting, and we thank him for providing members with close ups of a number of our best orchids.

Our society is once again organizing the kitchen at this year's SAROC Fair to be held on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th June. This is a large role in the Fair and a roster for help over that weekend will again be circulated this meeting. Your support would be very much appreciated.

We again seek your help in providing plants for our display at the Fair. Kevin Gurney is taking over the responsibility for ticketing of display plants. He needs your list of plants before Friday 8th June His phone number and e-mail address is listed above at the top of Page 2.

Anton Drew is growing his plants extremely well, and is winning awards. He attributes part of his success to his fertilising program with a special fertilising programme which he will tell us about this month. Don't miss it. It could help you with your culture too.

Andrew Bird has set up a Facebook page for our Society. The address is South Australian Orchidaceous Society Inc. A link has been provided to our website, ably being maintained by webmaster Mrs Helen Haltis. In this way, we hope to widen information about our

Society to people checking us out on the internet

I will be away at our next meeting. Be kind to those helping out! Good growing.

Deane Johnston

LAST MEETING

For many years, John Seidel has been our photographer, and knows the requirements of award photography, which is evident when Don Higgs shows pictures each January of the previous year's seedlings and other top plants. John showed us a different facet to his plant photos at the beginning of his presentation last month, which I found very interesting. Thank you, John, for your programme, and for your commitment to our Society from way back when your Mum and Dad were very active in the Society, and you were just a little kid with an interest in orchids.

IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT SAROC FAIR..

Thank you to everyone who put their names down for the roster to help in the kitchen over the weekend, and for the offer of donations of food supplies. We will again circulate the lists this meeting.

Dinner. Robert Gunn will be collecting your booking fees for the Saturday night dinner at the Torrens Parade Ground \$25 per head. The caterer selected is the same one we had at our Christmas dinner meeting, when everyone had a good report on the quality and quantity of food. Dinner commences at 6.45 pm. We are having an After dinner speaker - the new and highly credentialed lady Director of the Botanical Gardens, who will provide an interesting talk.

Booking fees close on 31st May so this meeting is your last practical opportunity to register. There is a considerable contingent from our Society who have indicated they're going.

Plants for inclusion in our display can be brought in for setting up from about 12 n. on the Friday (free parking) but our display area must be set up first.

SHOW TRADING TABLE ROSTERS AND COMMISSIONS FOR SALES PLANTS.

In recent times, the number of people who have committed time on the rosters for manning the trading table have been steadily reducing, due to age or other factors, and Committee has decided we need new rules to encourage sellers and exhibitors to provide rostered time for selling plants at Shows, particularly the Winter and Spring Shows.

In earlier days, there were quite a larger number of people who came along and gave their time to help sell plants, but more recently the situation has been such that we could just about predict who would have their names down to help.

The stage has been reached where , on occasion, either because people did not nominate for time slots, or because they just didn't bother to advise that they couldn't come along to fill their nominated time slot, that on occasion, there has been only one seller on duty. When you consider that raffle ticket sales plant sales could be required simultaneously, and safety factors at the end of the day must be taken into account, it is evident that at least two people should operate the sales table at all times, and that is not even taking into account that we should have the plant displays under surveillance at all times to prevent plants from being taken.

Years ago, Committee reduced the percentage of plant sale prices retained by the Society to 20% to encourage more people to bring plants to sell, but now the diminishing support has brought about a policy change.

A commitment of at least 3 hours on the trading table is required and must be honoured, otherwise the percentage of price of your plants or goods retained by the Society will increase to 30%.

THIS MEETING

When Anton Drew was preparing for retirement, he set up a state of the art plant house which can probably be seen from the Adelaide Airport if you look hard enough, and which I endearingly referred to as the Taj Mahal. As with all new greenhouses, he worked through all the requirements towards making conditions right for his plants, and recently when visiting to consider plants for award, it was a bit like visiting the Kew Gardens glasshouse. What was evident, though. was a peculiar smell pervading the humid atmosphere, - not a pongy fertiliser smell, but something different. Anton told me that one day he would share some secrets with us about his growing. Well, the day has come. If you wish to find out how he does it, come along this meeting.

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Preparing for a dose of 'jungle juice'

PLANTS LAST MEETING

Plants tabled were considerably down on our usual display last meeting, but I guess some members were keeping their plants for the coming South Coast Autumn Show. Second Div. growers were keen to display, though, and are to be congratulated for their enthusiasm

The standout feature of the *Rlc* Village Chief North `Green Genius, brought in by Sarka Laznicka was the colour combination in the blooms.



It was the nearest to 'standard shape' (with a bit of a squint), but it will never

exhibit the round outline with wide petals we traditionally look for in that class. Other cattleya types were well grown, too, and they made a bright group of nice plants

- Diana Bird's golden yellow *C* Little Fairy was a heavy textured gold, and Barb. Semmens's yellow hybrid featuring the species *Brassavola nodosa* in its parentage was interesting, as *B nodosa* is an ivory white bloom with narrow outer segments and a heart shaped prominent lip, but when this species is used in breeding, the hybrids take the colour of the other parent, and feature interesting spotted lips in many of the progeny, including the one tabled last month.



Lovely golden concolour blooms of heavy texture Barb. Semmens could be considered unlucky, as her lovely bright yellow 'dancing lady' type *Gomesa* Sweet Sugar had a lovely spray of golden blooms, but there were just not enough out to feature as Best of Division All flowers and buds were on just one sturdy branching spike, es a result of good culture



Gomesa Sweet Sugar.

Miltassia Aztec 'Toni' is now being produced by a number of members. It features ease of growing, reliable flowering once maturity is achieved, good colour and form. It appears to be somewhat down on flower count on the spikes when compared with the old favourite *Miltassia* Estrelita, but it is still a rewarding miltassia to grow.



Wide flat segments and good colour make this an attractive orchid to grow.

The plant chosen by our Registrar as 'Orchid of the Night' was *Catasetum* (tigrinum x fimbriatum) a very pleasingly coloured hybrid, again grown by Richard & Beryl Wilson - a sturdy plant with an attractive spray of blooms

Fred Cawse brought in two nice tall tropical plants, a hard-cane Dendrobium and an Aranda.



Den Spiral Gem x Uniwai `Topaz'

COMPETITION RESULTS March 2018

CYMBIDIUM 60 to 90 mm

Second Div

1st *Cym* Unknown S Laznicka

STANDARD LAELIINAE Over 80mm

Open Div

1st C Mini Purple `Tamanii' R & L Gunn

STANDARD LAELIINAE Under 80mm

Second Div

1st Rlc Village Chief North `Green Genius'

S Laznicka

NON STANDARD LAELIINAE

Second Div

1st C Little Fairy D Bird 2nd Rolph Keowee x B nodosa P Haltis

Brd C Majestic Light `Glory' B Semmens

DENDROBIUMS

First Div.

1st Spiral Gem x Uniwai `Topaz' F Cawse

AUST NATIVE EPIPHYTE HYBRID

Second Div

1st Den Mekong B Semmens

AUST NATIVE EPIPHYTE SPECIES

Second Div

1st Den lithocola B Semmens

ONCIDIINAE HYBRID

Open Div

1st Oncidioda Pacific Pagan `Kilauea'

D & J Higgs

2nd Miltassia Aztec `Toni' J & K Whibley

3rd Gomesa Space Mine Red ShotR & L Gunn Second Div

1st Gom Sweet Sugar` B Semmens
 2nd Onc Pacific Pagan `Kilauea J & D Cassar
 3rd Onc Rosy Sunset `Rosebud B Semmens

OTHER GENERA HYBRIDS

Open Div

1st Ctsm tigrina x fimbriata R & B Wilson 2nd Phraa besseae x warzcewiczeanum

D & J Higgs

d Phrag Living Fire J & D Higgs

First Div

1st Aranda Madam Panner F Cawse

ZYGOPETALINAE HYBRIDS

Open Div

1st Z Conways Choice *x Zba* Adelaide City
R & L Gunn

SEEDLINGS

Opent Div

1st Phrag Ruby Slippers D & J Higgs

POPULAR VOTE

Open Div

1st Den Spiral Gem x Uniwai `Topaz'F Cawse
 2nd Aranda Madam Panner F Cawse

Second Div

1st Gomesa Sweet Sugar B Semmens 2nd Onc Pacific Pagan `Kilauea J & D Cassar

BEST ORCHID IN DIVISION

Open Division

Catasetum (tigrina x fimbriatum)

R & B Wilson

First Division

Den (Spiral Gem x Uniwai)

F Cawse

Second Division

Rlc Village Chief North `Green Genius'

S Laznicka

REGISTRAR'S CHOICE

Catasetum (tigrina x fimbriatum)

`Grown by

R & B Wilson