

The Orchidaceous Review

Volume 56 No.1

January 2021

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.saorchidsociety.org

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8390 2212

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PO Box 161 Brooklyn Park SA 5032



.Mr Fred Cawse admires one of his vandas flowering earlier this month.

Jan. meeting on the **THIRD** Wednesday of the month at the AdelaideWest Uniting Church hall.
312 Sir Donald Bradman Drive Brooklyn Park.

Next Meeting 8.00 pm WEDNESDAY January 20th 2021.

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We are most grateful for this support.

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

2020

PRESIDENT	Mr Trevor Jacob	☎	8346 6155
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SECRETARY	Mrs Pauline Simcock	☎	8390 2212
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COMMITTEE	Mrs J Higgs Mr D Higgs Mr R Edwards	Ms J Taylor Mr A Bird Ms Val Burgess	
REGISTRAR of JUDGES	Mr. Don Higgs		
SHOW MARSHAL	Mr A Bird		
REVIEW EDITOR	Mr. T. Jacob	☎	8346 6155

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LIFE MEMBERS

1970	Spiro Drikas	2005	Alan Davies, Iris Davies
1975	Elva Shawyer*, Gordon Shawyer* Edith Halliday*, Mervyn Green*	2013	Margaret Jacob
1976	Trevor Jacob	2014	Brian Brand, Shirley Brand
1977	Jack Moore*, Harold Luckhurst*, Ken Wynes*	2018	Lesley Gunn, Robert Gunn Don Higgs, Jane Higgs Jill Taylor
1986	Kelvin Staples, Stan Johnston*		
1992	Peter Speer*, Deane Johnston, Frank Neighbour*, Nancy Neighbour*		
1996	Kevin Gurney, Noel Oliver*		

*Denotes deceased member Researched K.G configured P.S 2018.

2021 PROGRAMME

January 20th 2021.

This month is our AGM, held over from last November due to State Coronavirus Regulations. We will distribute awards for winners from our Spring Show.

We will have photos by John Seidel of seedlings judged by our Judging panel at meetings and shows last year, plus other outstanding plants shown. Presentation will be by our Registrar, Don Higgs.,

BIRTHDAYS FOR January 2021

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

Denise Cassar Anton Drew John Dunn Ralph Edwards Jane Higgs
John Seidel Lucy Spear.

Next Committee Meeting: At Pine View, home of Ms J Taylor Mon 25th Jan 2021 7.30pm
Next Judges Meeting TO BE ADVISED.
Next SA Regional Judging Panel Meeting: Meeting via internet (Zoom) ---- to be advised.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

With this month's meeting we commence the 56th year of general monthly meetings of your Society. We will have meetings with guest speakers of general interest to the majority of members, and venues for Shows to enable you to display your plants, and sell your plants from our trading tables to a wide range of the general public. We will have on occasion, social outings to cater for your benefit and social interaction with other members, and friends. We hope more and more of you take advantage of the activities we arrange, and participate for your enjoyment in the growing and showing of your orchids.

Last year's activities were curtailed by the need to conform to government regulations imposed due to the impact of Coronavirus . We were stymied the day before our AGM in November, and again just before our December Xmas meeting. Restrictions imposed meant we were unable to hold Committee and Judging meetings, and also a visit to Aldinga Scrub which had been organised. We were though, able to hold two successful Winter and Spring Shows, and a Workshop day on Nov. 7th. Your Review was published each month in an effort to keep you all aware of the ongoing situation. I will address the work involved in these activities in my Annual Report which will be tabled at our AGM and subsequently to be published in the Review.

Thank you to all members of the Committee for your dedication, and we will publish a new list of guest speakers

and planned activities once your new Committee has had a chance to review and revise plans for 2021, bearing in mind the Coronavirus may again cause us to change plans at short notice

I wish you all a good growing season for 2021, and success with your growing and showing of your plants. On a positive note, the mild weather conditions experienced this last Spring and early summer seems to have a positive effect on plant growth, so we hope for good flowerings of your orchids this year.

Thank you,

Trevor Jacob (President).

THIS MEETING

Wednesday 20th January 2021.

There will be a number of changes to the format of our January meeting this year. First, we will hold our Annual General meeting, which was to have been held last November. We have sufficient nominations not to need a ballot for positions, so don't stay away on that account.

Our January meeting in recent years has been a review of the best seedlings presented over the last year, and views of some of the most spectacular or unusual orchids grown by our members. This review is led by our **Registrar, Don Higgs**, principally aided by photographs taken by our official photographer of long standing, John Seidel. We have been unable to hold meetings for the larger portion of the year, with disruption to the usual allocation of points towards the Annual Perpetual trophies. Where we could

hold meetings, the points have been gathered and tallied, (but not by the full judging panel, which has been unable to meet) and will be confirmed and published for your information next month. We considered whether we had sufficient seedlings presented from the few monthly meetings plus the two shows we held, but that precluded any seedlings which may have flowered at times when we had no meetings, and it was decided it would be fairer to not have a presentation for 2020.

Prize trophies for our last Spring Show will be distributed, too.

VALE.

We regret to have to advise members of the passing of Mr George Abell, an expert grower and breeder of sarcochilus orchids over many years, who was always willing to share his knowledge with others. George has been guest speaker at our Society on more than one occasion. We extend our sincere and deep sympathy to his wife, Pat, and their family, from all members of the Orchidaceous Society.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Subs for 2021 are now due, members. We have managed to keep our Annual subs. down to a most competitive rate for a number of years now. They will be unchanged for 2021 even with continuing rising postage costs. Single membership \$25, and Joint membership \$35 **.Now an amazingly good piece of news for those who paid their subs for last year (2020). You won't have to pay for this year's subs. We've waived fees for**

2020, so if you paid back then, you won't have to do it again.

LAST MEETING.

Can you remember way back to October last year, It seems a long time ago, doesn't it. We had our annual sarcochilus night and distributed prizes from our Winter Show.

We hope you remember the good times, too, and we look forward with confidence to a better start to the new decade.

SUPPER ROSTER.

The regular Supper Roster hasn't yet been established, because Covid rules still apply. A monitor will pass out tea/coffee as requested by members at the conclusion of the evening. I understand only separately packed biscuits are allowed at present – we will follow the protocols.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS.

We will compile a full list of members willing to carry out the myriad jobs which keep the wheels oiled to make things run smoothly, and volunteers will be approached.

Judith Gardner now has no car, and is unable to continue with distribution of raffle tickets at monthly meetings this year.. She has competently and cheerfully carried out this task for many years, and we thank you for your contribution, Judith. Your smiling face gives everyone a good start to our meetings.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP.

I have asked Committee to consider who could be nominated for

Life membership, and one name has been endorsed for nomination whom we really should have considered for a number of years previously. A proposal for your vote at the AGM has been included in the Agenda

A `VIRTUAL' VISIT.

No, I haven't succumbed to the internet disease, but I made a 'virtual' visit to the home of Fred Cawse earlier this month to see how his vandas are faring this year. I had been impressed with his culture on previous occasions, and his plants are still growing strongly. Fred grows his orchids inside a converted garage style frame clad with fibreglass, and has engineered the conditions to suit his plants, (which we have been accustomed to know as 'hot house' types). Fred grows his cold, and they're doing great.



We have become used to seeing Fred bringing his vandas, cattleyas, etc along to meetings, so when he invited me over recently, I jumped at the chance to show you some pictures of his setup.

His larger vanda types are hanging along a suspended pipe so the roots and humidity enhancing tillandsia plants festoon and hang among the orchids to keep the atmosphere

buoyant. On two sets of wire frame benches grow his normally potted plants, and underneath baby's tears grow profusely, which also enhances the humidity.



Fred's plants appear to be growing in normal, bark based mixture, and are sturdy and strong. A number of cattleya propagations are growing sturdily, and his oncidium types are making multiple growths and have big, healthy pseudobulbs.

I omitted to ask Fred what he feeds them on, and the frequency, but you can ask him yourselves when he brings some plants along for the show benches. I'm sure he would be delighted to have a chat. It could well be to your advantage to discuss how he grows his plants so well

. Fred brings some of his more spectacular efforts, like this Vanda Wirat, up under his back verandah for everyone to admire.

This plant had 4 spikes of large blooms of an eye-catching colour (my camera could not capture the violet-

blue colour properly, possibly because of the translucent colour of the roof) but you may recall Fred showing divisions of this plant at meetings and shows previously over the years.



Vanda Wirat. Hanging under Fred's back verandah.

The blooms had been out for some time when I arrived to photograph them, and are big, round and flat when in good condition. Thanks, Fred.



Hooray. I found another photo taken Nov. 2018 which gives a much better rendition of the colour of Wirat.

CHEERIO'S.

Brian and Shirley Brand are now recuperating at home after a stay at a convalescent home Well done.

I've just been advised that Lucy Spear is seriously ill in hospital. Best wishes, Lucy. Our thoughts are with you, and with Geoff. too, from all of us .

PERPETUAL TROPHIES

Last month I suggested perpetual trophy winners should return them this month so they could be re-distributed. Now that we're not issuing Perpetual trophies for 2020, it will be better if the previous winners hold onto them until the end of 2021. That will save someone from having to store them all until our next AGM.

CATTLEYA CULTURE (cont. from Dec)

Back cutting – A good way to develop a specimen plant

Some cattleyas (those with only short rhizomes connecting the pseudobulbs) make more compact plants which have more pseudobulbs to the potful. If your plant does not have the tendency to development many leads, you can make the plant develop more dormant eyes by chopping the rhizome right through every 3 to 5 growths without otherwise disturbing the plant. This forces dormant eyes into growth, thus more pseudobulbs and hence blooms.



C. George King 'Serendipity'

Do you remember this beautiful large plant from Peter Haltis which was Champion at the 2019 SAROC Fair? Get the right plant and you, too, can get results like this with careful attention to culture. xxx

