

# *The Orchidaceous Review*

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March 2024

**The South Australian Orchidaceous Society Inc.**

Affiliated with  
Australian Orchid Council  
South Australian Regional Orchid Council

[www.saorchidsociety.org](http://www.saorchidsociety.org)



**PRESIDENT**

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**SECRETARY**

Mrs Pauline Simcock  
0430 194 808

**TREASURER**

Mr Garry Simcock  
0419 837 761

**PO Box 124 Montacute SA 5134**



*Stanhopea leitzii* displayed last month - see inside for its unusual flowering habit.

**JAMES ARGENT** will be guest speaker this month. He will demonstrate how he mounts epiphytic orchids which prefer to have their roots exposed. This provides for a wet/dry cycle, provided you maintain necessary humidity in our hot summers. James is a qualified and sought after judge of the Floral Design Council, and may have time to give us some tips on staging show exhibits. See you there.

March meeting **20<sup>th</sup> March** at Long St, Plympton --- 7.30 pm. access

Review printing is courtesy Mr. **TOM KOUTSANTONIS**, Parliamentary Member for **WEST TORRENS.**

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

2024

PRESIDENT	Mrs Diana Bird	☎	0412 644 353
VICE PRESIDENTS	Mr Alan Davies		Mr J Cassar
Im PAST PRESIDENT	Mr Trevor Jacob.		
SECRETARY	Mrs Pauline Simcock	☎	0430 194 808
TREASURER	Mr G Simcock		P.O. Box 526 Montacute S.A. 5134 0419 837 761
COMMITTEE	Mrs J Higgs Mrs I Davies Mr R Edwards		Mr J. Argent ` Mr D Higgs
REGISTRAR of JUDGES SHOW MARSHAL	Mr. Don Higgs		
REVIEW EDITOR	Mr. T. Jacob	☎	8346 6155

## 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*	2021	Dr. Tony Bourne
1992	Peter Speer*, Deane Johnston, Frank Neighbour*, Nancy Neighbour*	2022	Pauline Simcock, Garry Simcock
		2023	Sarka Laznicka, Peter McCauley, Jan Whibley, Charles Yeo.
1996	Kevin Gurney, Noel Oliver*		

\*Denotes deceased member      Researched K.Gurney.

## 2024 PROGRAMME **Wednesday March 20th 2024.**

James Argent, our Assistant Registrar, will demonstrate how he mounts epiphytic orchids on blocks, and describes their treatment for successful establishment. A qualified Floral Art judge of the SA Floral Art Council, his experience in staging exhibits can show us some useful tips if time permits. Numbers of plants benched will be increasing, so stage you plants early,

### Birthdays for March. 2024

Best wishes to these members, who are celebrating birthdays this month.

Neil Cooper   Joe Cassar   Peter Haltis , and   Phil Steer.

**Next Committee Meeting:**    *Monday March 25th 2024 at Findon.*  
**Next Judges Meeting**            *Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at Findon*  
**Next SA Regional Judging Panel Meeting**    As advised for 2024 by Reg Judging Pane.l

## **. PRESIDENT'S Report**

Hello, again, members.

Didn't we have some unusual and well grown plants tabled last month.? Keep up the good work, but note that the increasing number of plants means that we must get them benched early to give our busy judges lots of time to do them justice.

I am keen to continue with articles in our Review from members about how they grow their plants.

Jane has provided an interesting way to manage and water your plants through summer. Thank you, Jane, and next month we will have an article from bygone days from one of our earliest members, who doesn't often come to meetings now, but who grows all types of plants very successfully..

I hope you and your plants have managed to come through the recent hot weather successfully. My orchid house sprinkler has recently been on almost every day to keep the plants happy.

We have been reviewing our library books and find that some are missing. If you were a regular borrower, can you check if you may have one or two at home?. That then gives other members a chance to borrow them, too. We hope to have the library up and running again shortly.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the March .meeting .

With all my best wishes  
, **Diana Bird** (President)

## **SAROC FAIR 2024. King's Birthday Long Weekend)**

Arrangements for the 2024 SAROC Fair at Campbelltown have been put in place, and our Society

has again been given the task of operating the canteen. We would be pleased if our members could again help to make this a big success.

Set up will be on Friday 7<sup>h</sup> June, and open to the public on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June (the King's Birthday long weekend)

## **OUR SPRING SHOW 2024**

We have been trying for a long time to engage in negotiating dates and venues for our Spring Show, and have now made different arrangements to what we have had in past years.

This year, we are holding our Spring Show over Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September (set up and judging afternoon and evening)

Open to public Sat 7<sup>th</sup> Sept. times to be confirmed)

Open to public Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Sept. from 12.30 pm to close probably about 4pm .

Where, you may ask. ???

**Findon Uniting Church hall  
Crittenden Rd. Findon.** (plus expanded Display space, Sales, and Refreshment areas, where we have Committee, Judging , and in past years, monthly meetings as well.

## **LAST MEETING --**

Jane Higgs must have a very good memory. She has such a wealth of experiences of past Shows and Conferences which she is willing to share with member , and it continued last month. Her talk plus pictures brought back lots of memories to me, and doubtless to other long time members, too. Thank you for sharing your impressions, Jane, and your lovely photos, too. Good orchids retain their ability to impress, especially when

photos are taken by an understanding judge. Perhaps that's why time seems to pass so quickly. We forget so much that has gone before, until good photos and reminiscences bring good times past back into focus.

### **THIS MONTH.**

We see some very good examples at times of epiphytic orchids tied to mounting blocks and sections of cork bark or boughs of suitable tree branches, and there's an art in helping them become established and continuing to thrive, especially over the hot summer months like we have recently experienced. James Argent has had lots of success, (and some failures, too, I'm surmising) That's how they get to be experts. And James has built a wealth of experience to make us all better growers. Come along and ask questions. We can all learn a lot.

### **OUR SHOW DATES THIS YEAR.**

#### **OUR AUTUMN SHOW (one day show)**

Same venue as last year – The Western Link Uniting Church Findon Uniting Church hall) **93 Crittenden Rd. Findon**

Put in, set up displays and judging **from 4 pm Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May**

**Open to Public Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May only. 9am to 4 pm 4 to 5 pm Clear up.**

#### **WINTER SHOW (two day show)**

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August from 4pm Put-in, and set up displays. Judging starts at 6 00 pm**

**Open to public Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August**

**Show opens at 9am to 4 pm**

**Sunday 12 noon to 4 pm**

#### **SPRING SHOW**

See Page3 above

### **SALES DAY**

#### **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October**

Same venue as last year – The Western Link Uniting Church Findon Uniting Church hall) **93 Crittenden Rd. Findon.** All sorts of plants (specially orchids) fertilisers, books, tractors, potting mix etc whoops sorry, no tractors)

### **A TIP FOR KEEPING POT .PLANTS DAMP**



“Study the photo. You will see that there's no weeds growing on the floor, the benching allows good air circulation, there's nowhere moulds and disease can gain a foothold, and there's lots of orchids, flowering plants thriving in this greenhouse .Can you guess who it belongs to.?”

“Recently I came across some water-well troughs. They are ideal for humidity-loving plants and take the place of individual gravel filled saucers. There were several sizes but the ones I bought measured 62cm long x 22cm wide. This size will take 4 pots of Phalaenopsis, Paphiopedilums or small Phragmipediums.

In these, you know that the pots are above the water and not

sitting in it and as the water in the base evaporates, it creates the humidity needed. Plus, they are much neater and more space saving than the saucers. I am really pleased with them.

They are available from Bunnings”

I can see another advantage ,too. With a few pots sitting in the water well trough, there’s not the instability of single pots sitting on the bench., and less inclination for them to topple over. Also, if you find the need to shift them in a hurry, you don’t need to shift the pots individually. Just check they are not wobbly in the water well, trough and you’ll have less individual lifting to do.

**Well.** Worked out who might be the author? Just go to the end of the “Plants tabled last meeting” column, and you will see

## **CHEERIOS**

We have a number of members who have been seriously unwell in recent days, Cheerio to Iris Davies, who is recovering well after a stay in hospital, Garry and Pauline Simcock, Margaret Jacob, Sarka Laznicka and any others from whom we have not heard.

## **PLANTS TABLED LAST MEETING**

There were some well flowered plants tabled last month. Was this due to the cooler weather we had been experiencing?. This last month, with no natural rainfall to freshen up your plants might tell a different story in March.

Let’s start with the lovely stanhopea on the front cover.. We’re lucky to have seen it in such good condition. The big, waxy blooms you would expect to last at least a few

weeks, collapse and shrivel after opening only a few days (and some in even shorter time)



Nothing wrong with the plant growth, either. We used to see them growing pretty tough, with sunburn on the leaves in an apparent effort to make them bloom. Most stanhopeas are highly perfumed, no doubt in an effort to attract a pollinator before the bloom fades. Another surprise is in store for the observant onlooker. Look closely and you will see that many flower spikes have grown vertically downward, and are protruding from the bottom of the potting basket. **MAKE A MENTAL NOTE NOT TO PLANT IT IN A SOLID POT OR IMPENETRABLE POTTING MIX.** Use paperbark , moss or something soft etc



*Stanhopea leitzii*

A lovely orchid, two spikes open, 6 blooms each and a third with at least 5 buds. A well deserved Registrar's choice.



*Cym Sundaani Autumn 'Goldie'*

This bright gold specimen size cym had 14 spikes, but only 4 out last meeting. It always is the first of the season to bloom for Trevor & Margaret Jacob, bred by Pauline Hockey.

Diana Bird's *Oncs* Catatante won Best Oncid., Popular Vote, and Best of Div. from a number of other growers in Second Div.



*Oncs Catatante 'Petite Cherie'*

Joe Cassar's *Onc. Aker Baby* has long sprays of maroon blooms, with contrasting white tips to the tepals and lips with a distinctive broad white frontal lobe. A regular

winner in First Div. This cross is bred from *Onc Sharry Baby*.



*Paph Helvetia*

This non-standard slipper seedling was the only one tabled from Michael & Oui. Last month .It had 3 inflorescences, two with single blooms, the other with 2 buds on the one stem – a well grown plant.



Joe Cassar's *Epidendrum Pacific Classic* was just that, a big improvement over the hybrids which came before. Colour, shape and overall quality was very good.

Jane Higgs.

See Water well pots.

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## COMPETITION RESULTS Feb 2024

### CYMBIDIUM UNDER 60 MM

Sundaani Autumn `Goldie, T & M Jacob.

### STANDARD LAELIINAE Under 80mm

First Div

2nd C Hawaiian Wedding Song J & D Cassar  
& R Huddleston

### NON standard Laeliinae

Open Div

1<sup>st</sup> Lc Mini Purple `Jessica` M Willoughby  
& Oui Ju

First Div

1<sup>st</sup> C Kew J & D Cassar  
& R Huddleston

2<sup>nd</sup> C Margaret Digwood J & D Cassar  
& R Huddleston

### NON STANDARD CLUSTER LAELIINAE

Open Div

1<sup>st</sup> Ctt Valentine Day LLisat M Willoughby &  
Oui Ju

2<sup>nd</sup> Ctt Valentine Day LLisat M Willoughby &  
Oui Ju

First Div

1<sup>st</sup> Epi Pacific Classic J & D Cassar  
& R Huddleston

2<sup>nd</sup> Epi Sunny girl Ann` J & D Cassar  
& R Huddleston

Second Div

1<sup>st</sup> Ctt Valentine Day `Red` G & P Simcock

2<sup>nd</sup> Ctt Meadii G & P Simcock

### SPECIES LAELIINAE

Open Div

1<sup>st</sup> Enc alata `Marian` M Willoughby & Oui Ju

Second Div.

1<sup>st</sup> Psh cochleata D Bird

### NON STANDARD PAPHS

Open Div

1<sup>st</sup> Paph helvetia` M Willoughby & O Ju

### DENDROBIUM

Second Div

1<sup>st</sup> Unknown `Snow` R Edwards

### ONCIDIINAE HYBRIDS

Open Div

1<sup>st</sup> Onc Aker Baby Raspyb Chocolate M  
Willoughby & O Ju

2<sup>nd</sup> Milt Cogniauxiae P & H Haltis

First Div

1<sup>st</sup> Onc Aka Baby J & D Cassar  
& R Huddleston

2<sup>nd</sup> Ons Tan Treasures J & D Cassar  
& R Huddleston

Second Div

1<sup>st</sup> Ons Catatante `Petite Cherie` D Bird

2<sup>nd</sup> Onc Pacific Panache D Bird

3<sup>rd</sup> Miltsa Unknown R Edwards

### ONCIDIINAE SPECIES

Open Div

1<sup>st</sup> Gom flexuosa P & H Haltis

### OTHER GENERA SPECIES

Open Div

1<sup>st</sup> Stanhopea leitzii M Willoughby  
Oui Ju

2<sup>nd</sup> Sngl macgloughlinii M Willoughby  
Oui Ju

### SEEDLINGS

Open Div

1<sup>st</sup> Paph Helvetia M Willoughby & Oui Ju

|

### POPULAR VOTE

Open Div

1<sup>st</sup> Stan leitzii M Willoughby & O Ju

2<sup>nd</sup> Onc Aker Baby M Willoughby &  
Oui Ju

3<sup>rd</sup> Lc Mini Purple `Jessica` M Willoughby &  
Oui Ju

First Div

1<sup>st</sup> Epi Pacific Classic J & D Cassar  
& R Huddleston

2<sup>nd</sup> C Margaret Digwood J & D Cassar  
& R Huddleston

3<sup>rd</sup> Onc Aker Baby J & D Cassar  
& R Huddleston

Second Div.

1<sup>st</sup> Ons Catatante Petite Cherie` D Bird

2<sup>nd</sup> Mtsa Unknown R Edwards

3<sup>rd</sup> Ctt Valentine Day `Red` G & P Simcock

## BEST ORCHID IN DIVISION

### Open Division

**Stan leitzii**

**M WILLOUGHBY & OUI JU**

### First Division

**Onc Aker Baby**

**J & D Cassar & R  
Huddleston**

**Second Division**

***Ons. Catatante` Petite Cherie`***

**D Bird**



*Miltonia Cognauxiae* from P & H Haltis

**REGISTRAR'S CHOICE**

***Stanhopea leitzii`***

**M WILLOUGHBY & OUI JU**



*Encyclia alata` Marian`* – a fine form of this easily grown species shown by Michael & Oui



Recipients of LIFE MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES from last November AGM

**Sarka Laznicka, Peter McCauley,**

**Jan Whible and Charles Yeo.**

CONGRATULATIONS FROM ALL OUR MEMBERS.