

The Orchidaceous Review

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The South Australian Orchidaceous Society Inc.

Affiliated with
Australian Orchid Council
South Australian Regional Orchid Council



www.saorchidsociety.org



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TREASURER

Mr Garry Simcock
0419 837 761



This month's meeting is on **Wednesday 21st January 2026**
in the Plympton Community Centre, Long St., Plympton, at **8pm.**

Hall opens for set-up from 7.30pm
Carpark and entry are from the rear.

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OUR PARLIAMENTARY MEMBER FOR WEST TORRENS.

The Executive Committee of the S.A. Orchidaceous Society Inc. 2026

PRESIDENT	Mr G Simcock	☎ 0419 837 761
VICE PRESIDENTS	Mr Peter McCauley	☎ 0438 376 181 and Mr Trevor Jacob ☐☐8346 6155
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SECRETARY	Mrs Pauline Simcock	☎ 0430 194 808 P.O. Box 124 Montacute S.A. 5134
TREASURER	Mr G Simcock	0419 837 761
COMMITTEE	Mrs J Higgs Mr J Argent Mr R Edwards Mrs D Bird	Mr D Higgs M.Henschke Mrs I Davies
REGISTRAR of JUDGES SHOW MARSHAL	Mr. D Higgs Mr J Cassar	DEPUTY REGISTRAR Mr J Argent.

REVIEW EDITOR Glen Thompson

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
1996 Kevin Gurney, Noel Oliver*	2023 Sarka Laznicka Peter McCauley Jan Whibley Charles Yeo
	2024 John Seidel Val Speer

*Denotes deceased member

Researched K.Gurney.

GUEST SPEAKER for January 2026

**This month's guest speaker will be James Argent in place of Don Higgs,
reviewing last year's winning seedlings as voted by the Judges**

Volunteers for Kitchen duties this month are Diana Bird and ..?

Birthdays for January 2026

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

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

Congratulations!

Next Committee Meeting: *Tuesday 27th January at Western Link Church Findon.*
Next Judges Meeting *To be advised by Registrar*

PRESIDENT'S Report

January 2026

Happy New Year to EVERYONE, we hope you have had a safe and enjoyable time, we hope those members who were not well enough to join our Xmas dinner have improved and look forward to seeing them soon. Apart from the trauma at the beginning and end of the night, we trust everyone had an enjoyable time and their appetites were satisfied. It is a pity that the council could not have done their work, earlier, or later, parking and negotiating the obstacles for our members proved difficult . I did not need the extra exercise to get everything into the kitchen for the meal, then back to the ute after the meeting was over.

Congratulations to all who had won prizes or trophies for 2025, we look forward to some good competition in 2026. Val Speer was very emotional when she learned that a trophy was being presented in honour of the efforts and work put in by herself and husband, Peter , over several years , and she was asked to present it to the winner. Although Val does not attend meetings regularly, she likes to keep in touch. She recently put a plant in one of our shows and took out the division winner. I was not surprised when she rang to book in for the dinner, when asked how many, she replied only one, and when asked about transport she had made no plans but would be there. The trophy and its presentation had been kept a secret, I could not let on that Mark had the date booked in his diary, he and Joanne

would be bringing Val and the trophy would be in the boot. Val rang again to let me know she had arranged transport and would have 2 guests.

Before serving the dinner, we welcomed our newest member, Sue McRae, and presented her with her badge so that everyone knew she was not gate-crashing. She was readily taken in and looked after, but during the evening I noticed her seat was empty. No, she had not left early, but had found some allies and was helping in the kitchen. We love having members help out but don't usually put them to work on their first attendance. Welcome and thankyou Sue.

Thank you, EVERYONE for the efforts you made to ensure our Dinner Meeting went off successfully. There were those who were obvious in serving the meal, or collecting crockery or cutlery , but there were some who were invisible, their efforts shone out when I went into the kitchen after the meeting, expecting to load the dirty dishes and cutlery into boxes to take home for washing, only to find everything sparkling clean and dry. When catering, I try to ensure everything is cooked, without being burnt, but my biggest fear is that there may not be enough ,I have experienced being on the end of the line and also where there has been no choice left. Not wanting to be left with leftovers, I brought some "Doggie Bags " , (Boxes) and members were able to take home some of the spoils. Pauline said to me Thursday Night, are we having scraps for tea? My reply, only if you want a slice of pudding with a splash of custard!

Our January Meeting has the topic 2025 – the year in review. Don gives a visual presentation of the winning plants and displays from the meetings and shows from last year. I believe James will take us through this, as Don and Jane will not be available. We had discussed a possible shortage of judges for this meeting but from my recent experience, any plants in flower have had their flowers frizzled.

Cheers, Garry Simcock, President

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subs for 2026 are now due. As Treasurer, I am more than happy to take your payment, in cash, by credit card, or by direct deposit.

If making a payment by direct deposit, please remember to give your name.

Our bank Details are: **The South Australian Orchidaceous Society Inc.**

BSB 065 152

Account 10053971

Garry Simcock, Treasurer

Christmas Meeting Photos



Part of the gathering.



The food table ready for serving, with helpers Michael Willoughby, Oui Ju and Jan Whibley.



Members waiting for the food.



The Raffle Table.



Michael Willoughby receives aggregate points cards.



Don Presenting Oui Ju with the Memoria Craig Gurney Trophy.



Joe Cassar receives the Certificate for Highest Aggregate Points in 1st Division.



Don Presenting John Dunn the Edite Nichols Seedling Trophy.



Don Presenting Jane with the Shawyer Sarochilis Trophy.



Santa delving into his bag.



Val Speer presenting the P. & V. Speer trophy to John Dunn with Mark Boucher.



Oui Ju showing how not to waste excessive meat left on a leg of lamb. (Henry VIII inspired?)

THE P. & V. SPEER TROPHY

For Australian Native Terrestrial Orchids

This trophy was donated to the club by the Bouchier family to commemorate the contributions to the club by the late Peter Speer and his wife Val. Val, who was present at the meeting, knew nothing about the trophy and was moved to tears when it was announced.

Peter, although not a foundation member, joined the club shortly after it was formed and served on the committee for many years. He was a Life Member of the club and a Judge and mentored many student judges, always willing to pass on his knowledge of judging and growing Orchids. He grew a wide range of genera and especially Australian Native Terrestrials, showing large specimen pots of these. Val was club Secretary for 8 years in the 90's and typed up the prize cards at shows for many years. She was finally made a life member of the club only a few years ago.

Don Higgs, Registrar of Judges



Orchid Culture Notes for January

It's the start of another year in the orchid house. This year we have been dealt with extreme weather ranging from a baking and orchid killing 44C heat event to a tropical week of high humidity and 60mm of rain at my place in January. A normal cycle should start soon and as the saying goes, it will get hot when the kids go back to school. Note that any heat damage will come out over the next few weeks with leaf marks becoming more evident and leaf drop occurring. The recent rains and humidity will create some fungal issues in the shade house as well, so keep an eye out for any outbreaks and have some fungicide ready in case. Heat damaged plants with damaged leaves and stress are prime targets for pest and disease attack. The physical side of heat damage is easy to spot, but remember that heat also damages the plants' roots as well. Black pots exposed to the sun, overheat and cook the roots. Whilst the top of the plant may come through OK, underneath things are not so good. Then sometime later the plant starts to shrivel, as they no longer have a functioning root system. Most of us will put down root loss to poor culture such as over watering or a broken-down mix. Just remember, heat can be added to this. Even slugs and snails will be in good numbers, awakened by the sudden change in weather. I managed to collect some absolute orchid eating monsters during the rain: - Slugzillas!

Steve Howard

2025 Annual Floral Competition Winners

Each year club members show their plants at monthly meetings and receive points in the classes they show their plants in. 3 points are gained for a first place, 2 points for a 2nd place and 1 point for a third place. This is called the Aggregate Points Competition. A card is presented to the member who has the highest number of points in each class and in each division. To receive a card a 2nd division member needs to accrue at least 4 points in a class. A 1st Division member needs to gain at least 6 points and an Open division member needs at least 10 points.

The club also has several trophies mostly for highest overall aggregate points for various genera and are presented each year at the Christmas meeting. 2 trophies, the Craig Gurney Memorial Trophy at the meeting after the Winter show and the Memoria Elva Shawyer trophy, are presented at the meeting after the after the Sarcophilus show.

The following are the winners for 2025.

OPEN DIVISION

M. Willoughby & O. Ju	Laeliinae Standard over 80mm	17
	Laeliinae under 80mm	11
	Laeliinae Non Standard	14
	Cluster Laeliinae	16
	Laeliinae Species	14
	Paph. Non Standard	22
	Paph. Species	44
	Aust. Nat. Epy. hybrid	14
	Oncidiinae	18
	Other Hybrid	10
	Other Species	12
	Seedling	30
	Popular Vote	35
P&H Haltis	Cymbidium 60- 90mm	12
	Cymbidium under 60mm	18
J. Seidel	Standard Paphiopedilum	11

FIRST DIVISION

WINNER	CLASS	POINTS
J & D Cassar	Cymbidium Over 90mm	6
	Laeliinae non-std	14
	Laeliinae Species	13
	Phalaenopsis Non Standard	6
	Paph. non Std	6
	Dendrobium	11
	Popular Vote	22
D. Bird	Cymbidiums 60 - 90mm	11
	Cymbidiums Under 60mm	8

J. Dunn	Paphiopedilum species	9
	Australian Native Epiphyte Hybrid	37
	Australian Native Terrestrial Hybrid	11
	Australian Native Terrestrial Species	13
	Zygopetalinae Hybrid	6
	Other species	6
	Seedling	9
R. Edwards	Laeliinae Standard under 80mm	12
	Other Hybrid	11
	Other Species	6
S. Laznicka	Laeliinae Cluster	18
P. & A. Steer		
	Oncidium Hybrid	24

SECOND DIVISION

G. & P. Simcock	Cymbidium 60 - 90 mm	10
	Laeliinae Non Standard	11
	Laeliinae Cluster	21
	Laeliinae Species	6
	Zygopetalinae	6
	Popular Vote	19
M. Henschke	Cymbidium under 60mm	13
	Australian Native Epiphyte Species	4
A. Massared	Phalaenopsis Species	4
V. Rounsfell	Aust. Native Epiphyte Hybrid	17
	Zygopetalinae	6
	Oncidium Hybrid	9

TROPHY WINNERS

TROPHIES		CERTIFICATES (2025 Winners)
Cymbidium Cup Highest Aggregate points for Cymbidium classes	P. Haltis (31)	P. Haltis
Driffeld Laeliinae Cup Highest Aggregate Points for Laeliinae Classes	M. Willoughby & O. Ju (72)	J. & D. Cassar
Memoria Elva Oliver Trophy Highest Aggregate Points Australian Native Classes	J. Dunn (37)	J. & D. Higgs
M. & S. Steele Popular Vote Trophy Highest Aggregate Points	M. Willoughby & O. Ju (35)	J. & D. Cassar
P. & S. French Oncidium Trophy Highest Aggregate Points	M. Willoughby & O. Ju (27).	M. Willoughby & O. Ju
P. & V Speer Australian Native Terrestrial Trophy	J. Dunn (24)	New Trophy 2025

Highest Aggregate Points Australian Native Terrestrial Classes		
Edite Nichols Memorial Trophy Most Outstanding Seedling of the Year	J. Dunn Den. (Saigon superDream x Graeme Banks) (76.5)	M. Willoughby & O. Ju
Memoria Craig Gurney Trophy Best Paphiopedilum at Winter Show	M. Willoughby & O. Ju	M. Willoughby & O. Ju
Memoria Elva Shawyer Sarchochilus Trophy Champion Sarchochilus at October Sarchochilus Feature Night	J. & D. Higgs	M. Willoughby & O. Ju

SHOW DATES 2026

Autumn Show at Crittenden Rd, Findon, on **Friday 15th May** set up from 4pm followed by judging, then **Saturday 16th May** 9am to 4pm open to public.

South Australian Orchid Fair on the King's Birthday Weekend **Friday 5th June** 9am set up, then **Sat 6th June** 9am to 4pm and **Sunday 7th June** 10am to 3pm open to public at the Campbelltown Council Function Centre, 172 Montacute Road, as in previous years.

Winter Show at Crittenden Rd, Findon, **Friday 31st July** set up from 4pm followed by judging, then **Saturday 1st August** 9am to 4pm and **Sunday 2nd August** 12noon to 4pm open to public.

Spring Show, also at Crittenden Rd Findon, **Friday 11th September**, put in displays from 4pm followed by judging, then **Saturday 12th September** 9am to 4pm and **Sunday 13th September** 12noon to 4pm open to public.

Plant Sales Day is scheduled for **Saturday 10th October** at the Crittenden Rd Findon Church Hall from 8am set up for your sales items, then open to public 9.30am to 4pm. You can sell all sorts of plants, pots, potting mix etc.