

# MAROONDAH ORCHID SOCIETY

## INCORPORATED

# MONTHLY NEWS LETTER

Lycastes are orchids of the  
New World Tropics and Subtropics



Lycaste Club Emblem

Volume : 44 - Issue : 11

**December Meeting: 8 pm Friday 17 December 2021**

**Venue: St. Timothy's Catholic  
Community School Hall  
21 Stevens Road, Vermont.  
(Melway, Map 62 Ref.G3)**

**ITEM OF THE EVENING: Christmas Dinner**

**Venue:** The top hall at St Timothy's.

**Arrival Time:** 6.30pm.

**What to bring:** BYO drinks and glasses (food provided).

**Kris Kringle:** Bring a gift to the value of \$5 and mark His, Hers or Either.

**Special Effort:** Will be Christmas Hampers.

There will be no Sales Table but every member will receive a gift.

**Bench Competition:** There will be no judging but there will be a popular vote under two categories open and intermediate/novice.

**PLEASE NOTE: Before entering the hall you must be double vaccinated and show proof of vaccination either on your mobile phone or a hard copy.**

## President's Report

I thank you for electing me President of the MOS for a second term. Were you there! Finally, we were able to hold an in-person Club Meeting. For me it was exciting having 30-40 members present, the AGM, seeing benched plants, the annual Sarcocylus Show, David led a member's discussion on Sarcocylus growing, the presentation of an Award of Appreciation to Max Bomford. It was hard to draw a breath between each item.

As usual the plants on display, both benched and the Sarcocylus, were of a high standard so much so that the Judges awarded Club Cultural Certificates to 3 plants.

Our next big event is the annual Christmas Dinner. The usual items will be there, popular vote for benched plants, hamper prizes for the Special Effort draw and a plant for members. Of course, the highlights of the evening will be the socialising and the dinner.

Are lockdowns a thing of the past? One would hope so! This means we can look forward to holding meetings and be back to normal for our 2022 meetings and shows.

Please take care and keep healthy and safe, have a great Christmas and New Year celebration time and I look forward to meeting with you at our Club Meeting in February 2022 at the same place and time.

Regards

Ron Coleman

<b>M.O.S. Inc. Patron:</b>	David Cannon
<b>Life Members:</b>	The late Frank Date, Jim Foster-Johnson, David Cannon, Alan & Nancy Cockram, Dieter Weise, The late Barry Robinson, Susanne Redpath, Max Bomford, Cheryl Luth, G Moffat.
<b>Current M.O.S. Inc. Committee:</b>	
<b>President</b>	Ron Coleman (M) 0477 311 188
<b>Vice Presidents:</b>	David Cannon (M) 0418 394 282 Vacant
<b>Secretary:</b>	Leo Orland (M) 0419 884 492: email <a href="mailto:leoorland@totalfundraising.com.au">leoorland@totalfundraising.com.au</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Graeme Moffat (H) 9726 5793
<b>Committee</b>	Leanne Le (M) 0416 818 290 Daniel Tung Jim Foster-Johnson (M) 0412 366 686 Edith Yu-Chan (M) 0411 378 096 Heather Coleman Claudia Ng
<b>Membership Secretary:</b>	Edith Yu-Chan
<b>Newsletter:</b>	Leo Orland
<b>Floral Art:</b>	Susanne Redpath (M) 0413 138 307
<b>Website Manager</b>	Heather Coleman
<b>MOS Website Address</b>	<a href="http://www.oscov.asn.au/mos">www.oscov.asn.au /mos</a>
<b>MOS Facebook Address</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/maroondahorchidsociety">www.facebook.com/maroondahorchidsociety</a>

**REMINDER: If you haven't paid your membership renewal - Fees are due.**

Adult (single) \$16.00; Family \$20.00; Junior (16 years and under) \$5.00.  
You can pay in person to Edith Yu-Chan Or you can pay via direct debit to the following bank account –

**BSB: 063167 - Account number: 10107735**

Please remember to fill in the reference field with your name. Thank you!

### **CUMULATIVE POINT SCORES**

Due to the Covid situation halting physical meetings and only four Show Bench Judging being held the Committee has decided to add the 2021 competition points to the 2022 competition.

## Interesting Plants at November Meeting



D. Weise's *Phragmipedium*  
*caudatum* 'Charlotte'



S. Kappl's *Masdevallia*  
*infracta*



S. & M. Early's  
*Cym. devonianum*



C. Luth's *Lycaste*  
*Lassioglossa* x *Kooleena*



J. Foster-Johnson's *Sophrocattleya*  
*Royal Beau* 'Alex L'



K. Balogh's *Masdevallia*  
*Stripendous* 'Beyond  
Beenak'



J. Guario's *Phalaenopsis*  
*'Biba'*



C. Ng's *Cymbidium* *Cricket*  
*'Invincible'*



T. Le's *Masdevallia*  
*Noojee Purple*



## Interesting Sarcs at November Meeting

		
<p>J. Foster-Johnson's hartmanii</p>	<p>D. Cannon's Melba</p>	<p>D. Tung's Kulnara Sanctuary x Kulnara Kaliedescope</p>
		
<p>S. Kappl's Peristerchilus Olive Grace</p>	<p>D. Cannon's Serina Bold Eyes</p>	<p>D. Cannon's Serina Bold Eyes</p>
		
<p>T. Le's Heidi</p>	<p>T. Le's unknown</p>	<p>T. Le's Bunyip</p>

## Bench Competition - November - 2021

<b>JUDGE'S VOTE</b>	Phragmipedium Caudatum 'Charlotte'	c	D. Weise
<b>POPULAR VOTE</b>	Phragmipedium Caudatum 'Charlotte'	c	D. Weise
<b>BEST IN SECTION</b>			
<b>Open</b>	Phragmipedium Caudatum 'Charlotte'	c	D. Weise
<b>Intermediate</b>	Phalaenopsis 'Biba'	c	J. Guario
<b>Novice</b>	Masdevallia Noojee Purple	c	T. Le
<b>Open</b>			
Miniature Cymbidium	1 <sup>st</sup> Phar Lap	c	D. Tung
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Cricket	c	L. Orland
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sweet Devon	c	D. Cannon
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Miss Muffet	c	G. & M. Moffat
Masdevallia Hybrid	1 <sup>st</sup> Stipendous 'Beyond Beenak'	c	K. Balogh
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Copper Fire x Copper King	c	J. Foster-Johnson
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Hot Shot	c	L. Le
Masdevallia Species	1 <sup>st</sup> infracta	c	S. Kappl
	2 <sup>nd</sup> coccinea 'Blanca'	c	D. Weise
	3 <sup>rd</sup> coccinea 'Harryana'	c	L. Le
Dendrobium	1 <sup>st</sup> Mild Yumi 'Lotus'	c	J. Foster-Johnson
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Gowans Tangelo	c	D. Weise
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Star Sapphire	c	J. Foster-Johnson
Lycaste	1 <sup>st</sup> Lasioglossa x Koolena	c	C. Luth
Paphiopedilum	1 <sup>st</sup> Gold Dollar	c	S. & M. Early
Oncidiinae Medium	1 <sup>st</sup> Futuresque	c	C. Luth
Oncidiinae Small	1 <sup>st</sup> Sydney	c	J. Foster-Johnson
Laelinae Intermediate	1 <sup>st</sup> SLC Royal Beau 'Alex'	c	J. Foster-Johnson
Ant Other Hybrid	1 <sup>st</sup> Vanda Princess Mikasa	c	S. Kappl
Species Any Genera – The America's	1 <sup>st</sup> Phragmipedium caudatum	c	D. Weise
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Cat. intermedia	c	P. Hince
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Lycaste macrophylla	c	C. Luth
<b>Intermediate</b>			
Miniature Cymbidium	1 <sup>st</sup> Cricket 'Invincible'	c	C. Ng
Phalaenopsis	1 <sup>st</sup> Biba	c	J. Guario
<b>Novice</b>			
Masdevallia Hybrid	1 <sup>st</sup> Noojee Purple	c	T. Le
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Falcata Yellow Cake	c	T. Le
Oncidiinae Medium	1 <sup>st</sup> Bictonense x Brassia Rex	c	R. & H. Coleman
<b>Seedling Flowering For The First Time</b>			
<b>Open</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Cym. wadae	c	S. & M. Early
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Paphiopedilum	c	D. Weise
<b>Club Cultural Certificate</b>			
	Cymbidium Cricket 'Invincible'	c	C. Ng
	Masdevallia infracta	c	S. Kappl
	Masdevallia Veitchi 'Candy Cane	c	J. Foster-Johnson

## Sarcochilus Night Show Results

<b>Champion Sarcochilus of the Night</b>	hartmanii	c	J. Foster-Johnson
<b>Open</b>			
Best Classic Shape - White	Melba	c	D. Cannon
Best Classic Shape – Red/Pink	Serina ‘Bold Eyes’	c	D. Cannon
Best Classic Shape – Any Other Colour/Combination of Colours	Kulnara Sanctuary x Kulnara Kaliedescope	c	D. Tung
Best Novelty Shape – Open Shaped Plants (e.g. Australis etc.)	Peristerchilus Olive Grace	c	S. Kappl
Best Species	hartmanii	c	J. Foster-Johnson
Best Speciman (Hybrid/Species)	Serina Bold Eyes	c	D. Cannon
<b>Other Than Open Section</b>			
Best Classic Shape - White	Heidi	c	T. Le
Best Classic Shape – Red/Pink	Bunyip Fitzhart x Orange Glow	c	T. Le
Best Novelty Shape – Open Shaped Plants (e.g. Australis etc.)	Unknown	c	T. Le
<b>Seedling Flowering For The First Time</b>			
<b>Open</b>	hartmanii	c	K. Balogh



## Photos from the November Meeting





# Orchid's cancer hope

**A COMPOUND** extracted from a commonly cultivated orchid could be a potential new treatment option for prostate cancer, research has found.

The second most common form of cancer is also the sixth highest cause of cancer-related mortality worldwide.

The Centenary Institute researchers examined erianin, a natural bibenzyl compound, present in *Dendrobium chrysotoxum*, an orchid species native to Southeast Asia. It has anti-tumour effects on early and advanced-stage prostate cancer cells.

Thanks to Graeme Moffat for passing on this article

## WATERING ORCHIDS IN SUMMER by Brian Milligan



Most orchid growers agree that in winter orchids should be watered in the morning, preferably on sunny days when the temperature is rising, so that the foliage is dry by nightfall. Watering in summer is more controversial. For a typical summer day in Melbourne with a maximum temperature around 25°C, I stick to the winter schedule and water in the morning. Foliage that remains wet overnight is prone to fungal attack, especially if the relative humidity is high. Glasshouses and other enclosed structures are always humid at night when the temperature falls.

Watering in hot weather, when temperatures exceed 30°C, and especially when hot, dry northerly winds are blowing, is another matter. Under these conditions small pots watered in the morning will be dry by midday. Watering in the evening is then much better, as the plants have all night to absorb water through their roots. If the weather is very hot, I water my small pots (up to 50 mm in diameter) both in the morning and at night. The above comments refer to plants, such as Australian native dendrobiums, grown in bark-based mixes. Plants grown in Sphagnum moss retain moisture much longer and seldom need watering more than once every second day, even in the hottest weather. Some orchids, such as dendrobiums and varicosum-type oncidiums, like to dry out between waterings, whereas cymbidiums and paphiopedilums do much better if their potting mix is never allowed to become completely dry.

There is an added benefit to watering cymbidiums at night in summer. The cooling effect produced by watering at that time induces flowering. Temperatures need to fall to 13°C or lower over a succession of nights in December and January for this to happen. The required cooling effect is fairly easy for us to achieve but not for Brisbane growers, who have great trouble in persuading many of their cymbidiums to bloom. One genus that definitely benefits from watering at night is *Pleione*. Max Akam, one of Melbourne's largest *pleione* growers, always waters his plants at night, and believes it is particularly important in hot weather.

Some growers with heated glasshouses water the orchids therein in the evening all year round. Their rationale is that rain falls mainly in the late afternoon or evening in the tropical regions where most of their species orchids grow, and that they are doing only "what comes naturally". However, unless the minimum temperature is about 15°C and there is excellent air circulation, I believe that watering at night throughout the year will ultimately lead to attack by *Botrytis* and other fungal infection.

No orchids should be watered at midday in very hot weather. Soft-leaved orchids, such as *lycastes* and *pleiones*, will suffer from leaf scald, and so may the new growths on soft-cane and Australian native dendrobiums. Also, it's best not to apply liquid fertilisers in hot weather, and preferably not when the roots are dry. Always ensure that the potting mix is damp before applying liquid fertilisers, or you may damage the roots (this advice has been handed down by a long line of expert orchid growers but may not be scientifically based). I prefer to play safe and water one day and fertilise the next. By choosing a cool spell of weather, then it won't be necessary to water for another couple of days. This allows time for the nutrients to be absorbed by the plant before they are flushed away with the next watering.

Whatever your watering technique, the most important thing to your plants is that they are watered. The effort that you put into your cymbidiums during summer will be reflected in how well they flower in winter and spring. So give them a Happy Christmas too, and water them regularly over the holiday season.





### **LAST THOUGHTS:**

What is Santa's dog's name?  
Santa Paws.

Why is the alphabet in the North Pole different than the normal alphabet?  
The North Pole's alphabet has noel.

What does Mrs. Claus sing to Santa on his birthday?  
"Freeze a jolly good fellow!"

What do you get if you cross Santa with a duck?  
A Christmas Quacker



If Undeliverable Return to:  
The Hon. Secretary,  
Maroondah Orchid Society Incorporated  
P.O.Box 5076, Ringwood. Vic. 3134

## NEWSLETTER



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