

# MAROONDAH ORCHID SOCIETY INCORPORATED

## MONTHLY NEWS LETTER

Lycastes are orchids of the  
New World Tropics and Subtropics



Lycaste Club Emblem

Volume : 48 - Issue : 7

**Next Meeting: Friday – 15 August 2025**

**Venue: Parkmore Primary School  
38 Jolimont Road, Forest Hill.**

### **ITEM OF THE EVENING:**

**Murray Harding – Cymbidium canaliculatum**

**Topical Chat: Preparation for OSCOV and Spring Shows**

**Time:** 8.00PM

**Supper:** Please bring a plate

**Special Effort:** Tickets at door \$1.00 or 3 for \$2.00

**Sales Table:** Pots, stakes, labels and hangers – Leanne Le

# President's Report

Our most recent meeting at Parkmore Primary featured our Winter Show. There was a great display of winter flowering Orchids. Congratulations to the winners in each of the categories and thank you all for helping make it a great evening.

We were also pleased to have John Varigos presenting on the myriad native orchids found in Western Australia. The Highlight (and the specific topic) was the Queen of Sheba – the *Thelymitra variegata*. This is a magnificent variegated orchid endemic to the Stirling Ranges region.

Coming up in October, we will have our Annual General meeting and I would encourage members to consider joining the Society's Management Committee. It would be great to see some of our younger members becoming actively involved in the running of the Society.

And, don't forget the Victorian Orchid Spectacular at the end of August.

Michael Chivell

## **REMINDER: Membership Renewal NOW DUE**

Fees were due 1st July 2025 Fees: Adult (single) \$20.00, Family \$25.00, Junior (16 years and under) \$5.00

**Please note – to enter or sell plants at the Spring Show a member must be a financial member no later than the Members' Meeting (19 September 2025).**

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!

**REMINDER: If you have a MOS Perpetual Trophy please return to the club.**

**M.O.S. Inc. Patron:** David Cannon

**Life Members:** The late Frank Date, Jim Foster-Johnson, David Cannon, The late Alan Cockram, Nancy Cockram, Dieter Weise, The late Barry Robinson, Susanne Redpath, The late Max Bomford, Cheryl Luth, G Moffat.

**Current M.O.S. Inc. Committee:**

<b>President</b>	Michael Chivell (M) 0402 568 217
<b>Vice Presidents:</b>	David Cannon (M) 0418 394 282 Ron Coleman
<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>	Ron Coleman (M) 0477 311 188
<b>Committee:</b>	Graeme Moffat (H) 9726 5793 Leanne Le (M) 0416 818 290 Genny Chivell (M) 0434 995 174 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>

## **THE 31st. ANNUAL OSCOV VICTORIAN ORCHID SPECTACULAR & ORCHID SALE 2025**

**VENUE:** Boxhall Pavilion, KCC Park (State Dog Centre), 655 Western Port Highway. Skye

**TIME (for public attendance):**

Friday 23 August 9.00am – 4.00pm  
Saturday 24 August 9.00am – 4.00pm  
Sunday 25 August 9.00am – 4.00pm

**ENTRY** Adults- \$10 Children under 15 Free

**Key Dates** Set-up: Wednesday 27 August from 9.00 am - 11.am

Judging: Thursday 28th August.

**Pull down - From 4.00pm Sunday 31 August**

Those with access to the internet: the OSCOV Website has all the information you require regarding the Spectacular. ([www.oscov.asn.au](http://www.oscov.asn.au)).

This is the time of the year when things start to hot up with the OSCOV Show at KCC Park and then our own Spring Show in September.

For the OSCOV Show we require some quality plants (please have them at the centre before 11am – Wednesday 27 August).




**PLEASE NOTE: Please advise the editor ([leoorland@totalfundraising.com.au](mailto:leoorland@totalfundraising.com.au)) the names of plants for the OSCOV Show by 7.00pm Tuesday 26 August.**

Thank you!






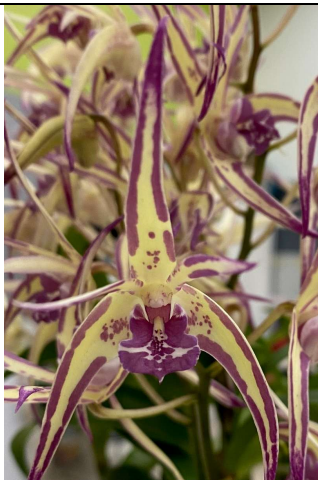
### Orchiata Orchid Bark Orders

The committee will be placing an order for – Orchiata Orchid Bark – size 9-12mm, 12-18mm and 18mm-25mm to be available for pick-up at the Spring Show. An order form will be available at August meeting. If you are unable to attend the August meeting, to assist in determining the quantity to be ordered please see the attached order form, complete it and email to David Cannon at [davika@bigpond.com](mailto:davika@bigpond.com) of your requirement by the end of August. The cost of the bark to members who pre-order is \$32.00 and will be sold at the show for \$35.00.

### Interesting Plants From the July Meeting

		
J. Foster-Johnson's Masdevallia (Kimballiana x Chaperone) x Magic Touch	D. Weise's Paphiopedilum venustum	G. Moffat's Cymbidium Jessie Blakiston 'April Love' x Flaming Vulcan 'Dural'



		
Tu Le's Cymbidium Dolores Hoyt 'Tom Thumb'	L. Orland's Coelogyne Colmani	C. Luth's Maxilaria picta
		
S. Kappl's Paphiopedilum Ruby Fire	K. Keily Cattleya Orputii 'Belle Vista' x Minipet 'Flow Ruby'	J. Foster-Johnson's Dendrobium Colour Fast 'Splish Splash' x Rockstar

## Winter Show – July 2025

Champion Orchid of the Night	Masdevallia (Kimballiana x Chaperone) x Magic Touch	c	J. Foster-Johnson
<b>Open</b>			
Best Paph. of the show	Double Deception	c	C. Luth
Best Cymbidium of the show	Jossie Blackiston x Flaming Vulcan 'Dural'	c	G. Moffat
Best Australian Native of the show	Den. Australian Colour Fast x Rockstar	c	J. Foster-Johnson
Best Specimen of the show	Maxillaria pictoa	c	C. Luth

Best Species of the show	Paphiopedilum venustum	c	D. Weise
Best Hybrid & any other Genera of the Show	Masdevallia (Kimballiana x Chaperone) x Magic Touch	c	J. Foster-Johnson
<b>Other Than Open</b>			
Best Cymbidium of the show	Cym Dolores Hoyt 'Tom Thumb'	c	Tu Le
Best Specimen of the show	Maxillaria picta	c	W. Han
Best Species of the show	Maxillaria picta	c	W. Han
Best Australian Native of the show	Den. Catherine Hill 'Yellow'	c	P. & Y. Lock
Best Hybrid and any other Genera	Zygopetalum Happy Bay 'Oliver Twist x Green Hills'	c	G. Chivell

## BENCH COMPETITION - July – 2025

	<b>Open Section</b>		
<b>Standard Cymbidium</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Shifting Sands 'Yellow Bird'	c	L. Orland
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grand Monarch	c	L. Orland
<b>Intermediate Cymbidium</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Valley Olympic	c	L. Orland
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Arachnid	c	L. Orland
<b>Miniature Cymbidium</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Jossie Blackiston x Flaming Vulcan 'Dural'	c	G. & M. Moffat
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Little Miss Jess	c	C. Luth
<b>Masdevallia Hybrid</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> (Kimballiana x Chaperone) x Magic Touch	c	J. Foster-Johnson
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Kimballiana	c	J. Foster-Johnson
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Peppermint Touch	c	J. Foster-Johnson
<b>Paphiopedilum Species</b>	1st venustum	c	D. Weise
	2 <sup>nd</sup> villosum	c	D. Weise

	3 <sup>rd</sup> villosum	c	S. Kappl
<b>Paphiopedilum Primary or Novelty</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Ruby Fire	c	C. Luth
<b>Australian Native – Dendrobium Hybrid</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> colourfast “Splish Splash” x Rockstar	c	J. Foster-Johnson
<b>Laeliinae Intermediate</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> L.C. Angel Heart ‘Hitlamu’	c	J. Foster-Johnson
<b>Laeliinae Miniature</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Cattleya Orputii ‘Belle Vista’ x Minipet ‘Flow Ruby’	c	K. Keily
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Cat. Chester Bensen	c	C. Luth
<b>Any Other Hybrid</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Coelogyne Colmani	c	L. Orland
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Coelogyne Bird Flight x celebensis Angel Wings	c	K. Keily
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Zygopetalum Peter Nelson	c	J. Foster-Johnson
<b>Species Any Genera – The America’s</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Ada aurantians	c	D. Weise
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Maxillaria picta	c	C. Luth
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Oncidium cheiroporum	c	D. Weise
<b>Species Any Genera – Other</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Cymbidium iridiopes	c	J. Foster-Johnson
<b>Species Any Genera – Other</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Vanda nana	c	S. Kappl
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Pterstylis repande	c	S. Kappl
	<b>Intermediate Section</b>		
<b>Standard Cymbidium</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Dural Ice	c	R. & H. Coleman
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Golden Fortune ‘Delight’	c	G. Chivell
<b>Miniature Cymbidium</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Dolores Hoyt ‘Tom Thumb’	c	Tu Le
	1 <sup>st</sup> Sarah Jean ‘Jennifer’	c	R. & H. Coleman
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sarah Jena ‘Karen’	c	R. & H. Coleman
<b>Any Other Hybrid</b>	1st Zygopetalum Happy Bay ‘Oliver Twist’ x Green Hills’	c	G. Chivell
	<b>Novice Section</b>		
<b>Standard Cymbidium</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Unknown	c	P. & Y. Lock
<b>Minature Cymbidium</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Dream ‘Pure Gold’	c	S. Liu

<b>Australian Native – Dendrobium Hybrid</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Catherine Hill ‘Yellow’	c	P. & Y. Lock
<b>Species Any Genera – The Americas</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Maxillaria picta	c	W. Han

### Points tally – 2025

<b>Open</b>	<b>Points</b>
<b>J Foster-Johnson</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>S. Kappl</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>C Luth</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>A. Baker</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>C. Gunawan</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>J. Harnetty</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>B. Clemson</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>D. Wiese</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>G. &amp; M. Moffat</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>L. Orland</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>C. Cannon</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>K. Balogh</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>K. Keily</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Intermediate</b>	
<b>Tu Le</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>G. Chivell</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>R. &amp; H. Coleman</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Novice</b>	
<b>W. Han</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>T. Pham</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>R. Kasman</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>S. Liu</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Pauline and Yuen Lock</b>	<b>7</b>



# ORCHID ROOTS AND LEAVES

by Rex Johnson

All orchids have roots and most have leaves, but do we really understand the purpose of these major plant components? Orchids do not have a main (or tap) root – many roots may emerge from the base of the pseudo-bulb but these are classed as adventitious roots, being the same as those that are sometimes produced at other locations along the pseudo-bulb.

Leaves come in a variety of forms, ranging from some that are cylindrical in cross-section to others that are flat and papery. Many orchids rely on their leaves (small as they may be in some cases) as their only reserve of moisture in times of drought.

First, let's look at the roots. They are not provided to hold an orchid in its pot, although they do come in handy for that purpose. The root system is the orchid's farmland, where it gathers water and nutrients and transfers them to other parts of the plant. If we cut an orchid root at an oblique angle, we can see that it is made up of three concentric rings. The outer ring is similar to a sponge – it readily soaks up water and dissolved nutrients and passes them to the middle ring, known as the cortex. The outer ring, called the velamen layer, is usually whitish in colour when dry or moist but has a greenish tinge when fully saturated with water.

As moisture passes from the velamen to the cortex, the velamen draws in air, which forms a barrier that prevents water from being returned to the atmosphere, so helping the plant to preserve moisture for as long as possible. The cortex then passes on its absorbed water and nutrients to the inner ring, known as the pith. The channels (vascular bundles) within the pith contain xylem bundles and phloem tissue that then transfer the moisture and its dissolved nutrients to other parts of the plant.

Although some orchids do not have leaves, they play an important part in the health of most orchids. It is there that water and carbon dioxide (a trace component of air) react together, under the influence of sunlight and a green catalyst called chlorophyll, to produce various sugars. These, in turn, are processed into cellulose – the 'bricks and mortar' of all plants.

The upper surface of an orchid leaf has a smooth waxy texture, and is designed to reflect heat and act as a waterproof jacket that protects the outer leaf cells. The lower surface of the leaf is usually shaded from sunlight and it therefore has a much thinner protective layer. This layer is pierced with thousands of minute slits (known as stomata) that the plant can open or close as needed. Beneath each stoma (the singular of stomata) is a cavity in which water and carbon dioxide are held before they are converted to sugars etc., as described above. The number of stomata varies widely within different orchid genera, ranging from 800-18,000 per cm<sup>2</sup>, with a mean of about 3000 per cm<sup>2</sup> – an incredible number, when one considers that 1 cm<sup>2</sup> is about the area of a fingernail!

The above facts have raised some unanswered questions in my mind.

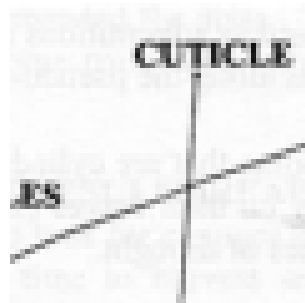
If orchid roots act like a sponge and soak up water and dissolved nutrients, why should we water our plants before we fertilise them? It seems to me that if the roots are already saturated with water, most liquid fertiliser subsequently applied would run to waste!

If the upper surfaces of the leaves are waxy and waterproof, why do we foliar feed our orchids? It seems to me that the only benefit that foliar feeding offers is the fertiliser that runs off into the pot and is then absorbed by the roots.

**Literature. G.C. Morrison, The Essentials of Orchid Growing, Kangaroo Press (1991).**

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## Coelogyne Care



### LIGHT

Light requirements vary. Most species require light conditions of 21,500-43,000 lumens (2,000 to 4,000 foot-candles). More light should be provided during dormancy, as in nature, the plants become more exposed to direct sun.



### TEMPERATURE

Temperature for the evergreen species should be fairly constant and not be hot. Nights of 60F (16C) and days of 70F to 80F (21C-27C) are desirable. Deciduous species can tolerate a wider range, up to 95F (35C) during the day and down to 50F (10C) at Night when dormant in winter. If keeping plants cool, also keep them drier to prevent rot.



### WATER

When thinking about these plants' water needs, think about the environments that they come from – mostly seasonally wet savannah or equatorial. That means that these plants should not dry out during active growth. If insufficient water is given, or there is too much time between waterings, the plants will exhibit “accordion” growth. Regardless of whether it is growing indoors or in a greenhouse, water should be liberally applied (though we do not recommend these plants for indoor growing). Potting mix should be perpetually moist and

dry slightly between waterings. Plants should not dry out completely, or if they do, water needs to be immediately applied when the media hits dryness. Deciduous species should be allowed to hit dryness during dormancy, but still watered as soon as they dry out. Water should be kept off the leaves and especially out of the new growths to prevent rot or leaf spotting, which disfigure otherwise handsome plants.



## HUMIDITY

Humidity should be maintained at 40% to 80%. Deciduous species need less humidity when dormant. Brisk air circulation will help prevent damage to leaves by leafspot fungi.



## FERTILIZE

Fertilize regularly and heavily when plants are actively growing. A higher nitrogen formulation (such as 30-10-10) is recommended during active growth. In autumn, or as growths mature and pseudobulbs are produced, fertilizer should be reduced or switched to a high-phosphorus (such as 10-30-20) formulation to stimulate flower production.



## POTTING

Potting is best when new growth starts, usually in the spring. A fine-grade potting medium is often used; fir bark and perlite (3:1) is a common, fast-draining mix, though some species are planted in 100% sphagnum. If planting in sphagnum, the pot should be a netted pot. If using the bark mix, the pot should be plastic. Always pot these orchids in hanging baskets, as some species flower downwards. When repotting, split plants into no less than two pseudobulbs per pot and choose a container to allow for two years of growth. The plant should be positioned in the vessel so that the newest growths are farthest away from the edge of the pot, allowing the maximum number of new growths without crowding the pot. Spread the roots over a cone of potting medium and fill in around the roots and the pseudobulbs. Push the medium firmly around the roots and water after repotting. Keep the humidity high and the potting medium on the semi-dry side until new roots form.

**Thanks to the American Orchid Society**

<b>Show</b>	<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Gippsland	15 Aug -16 Aug Shopping Centre Hours	Mid-Valley Shopping Centre, Princes Highway
OSCOV	Fri 28 Aug -Sun 29 Aug 9am-4pm	'KCC Park', 655 Western Port Highway, Skye
Sale & District	Sat 06 Sept 9.00 -4.00, Sun 07 Sept 10-3	VRI Hall, Pettit Drive (Opposite the Sale Railway Station)
MPOS	Fri 12 Sept – Sun 14 Sept bunnings Hours	Cnr McMahon's Rd and Gertrude St Frankston
South Gippsland	Fri 12 September, 9.30 -4.30, Sat 13, 9.30-4	Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, 75 Graham Street, Wonthaggi
Cymbidium Orchid Society	Sat 13 Sept 9-4, Sun 14 Sept 9-4	Mt Waverley Community Centre. Miller Crescent, Mt Waverley
NEMOS	Sat 13 Sep, 9-4 Sun 14 Sep 10-4	Marwal Centre, 9-11 Marwal Avenue, Balwyn North
Southern Suburbs	Sat. 20 Sept 10 – 4 Sun. 21 Sept 10 - 4	NG Wishart Hall, 964 Nepean Hwy, Moorabbin
Mid-Murray	Sat 20 Sept 10-4, Sun 21 Sept 10-3	Kerang Memorial Hall, Nolan Street Kerang
West Gippsland	Sat 20 Sept 9-4, Sun 21 Sept 9-12	Anglican Church Hall, Cnr. Princes Way & Francis Ave, Drouin.
Geelong	Sat 20 Sept 9-4, Sun 21 Sept 10-3	Christ Church Hall, Cnr. Moorabool and McKillop Streets
Stawell	Friday 26 Sept 10 -5 Sat. 28 Sept 10-4 Sat 27 Sept 10-4	Stawell Entertainment Centre, Town Hall 117 Main St. Stawell
Goulburn Valley	Sat 27 Sep, 9-4 Sun 28 Sep 10-3	Mooroopna Mechanics Hall, 41 McLennan St., Mooroopna
Berwick	Sat 27 Sept 9-4, Sun 28 Sept 9-4	Senior Citizens' Hall, 112 High Street, Berwick
Maroondah	Sat 27 Sep, 9-4 Sun 28 Sep 9-3	Parkmore Primary School, 38 Jolimont Rd, Forest Hill
Warrnambool	Sat 4 Oct Sept 10-4, Sun 5 Oct 10 – 3	Our Lady Help of Christian Hall , 28 Selby Rd, Warrnambool
MEOS	Sat 4 Oct, 9-4, Sun 5 Oct, 12-4	Burwood Heights Uniting Church, 347 Blackburn Rd, Burwood East
Ringwood/Yarra Valley	Sat 4 Oct 9-4, Sun 5 Oct 9-4	Public Hall, 590 Warburton Highway, Seville
Gippsland	Fri 3 Oct. Sat 4 Oct. Centre Hours	Mid-Valley Shopping Centre, Princess Highway
Bendigo	Fri 3 Oct 1-4, Sat 4 Oct. 10-3	Truscott Reserve 18 Murdock St

		California Gully
Colac	Sat 11 Oct 9-4, Sun 12 Oct 10-4	Colac Show Grounds Cnr. Bruce St & Princess Hwy
Cobden	Sat 18 Oct 10-4, Sun 19 Oct 10-4	Civic Hall, Victoria Street
Ringwood/Yarra Valley Orchid Society	Sat 18 Oct 9- 4, Sun 19 Oct 9-3	Public Hall, 590 Warburton Highway, Seville
Ballarat	Fri 17 Oct 12-5, Sat 18 10 – 4 Sun 20 10-3	Cooinda Community Centre 10 Learthmonth Rd Wendouree
MPOS	Fri. 17 Oct- 19 Oct, Bunnings Hours	Bunnings Mornington 1100 Nepean Highway Mornington
Bayside	Sat 25 Oct 9 - 5 Sun 26Oct 9 - 4	Cranbourne Public Hall, 166-168 South Gippsland Hwy
Ringwood / Yarra Valley Orchid Society	Sat 1 Nov 9-4, Sun 2 Nov 9-3	Keystone Hall, Keystone Hall Civic Square, Croydon
Sale Sarc Show	Sat 8 Nov 9-4, Sun 9 Nov 10-3.30	TBC

## LAST THOUGHTS

What do you call cheese that isn't yours? Nacho cheese!

My sister said I couldn't make a bike out of spaghetti. You should have seen her face when I rode pasta

Hey dad, did you just get a hair cut? No, I got them all cut.

Which days are the strongest? Saturday and Sunday. The rest are weekdays.

Where do pirates get their hooks? Second hand stores.

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

## NEWSLETTER



**Collectors Corner/Garden World** - You can get 10% off some items within the store by showing either your membership badge or membership card.

### DISCLAIMER

Maroondah Orchid Society Incorporated, Executive and Committee will not take any responsibility for the results of any action taken on advice given or views expressed by any member or invited speaker at any meeting or show. Views and opinions in this Newsletter by authors of articles do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of Maroondah Orchid Society Incorporated or its Executive or Committee.