

# MAROONDAH ORCHID SOCIETY INCORPORATED

## MONTHLY NEWS LETTER

Volume : 48 - Issue : 11

Lycastes are orchids of the  
New World Tropics and Subtropics



Lycaste Club Emblem

**Next Meeting: Friday – 19 December 2025**

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

### **ITEM OF THE EVENING: Christmas Dinner**

**Venue: Parkmore Primary School.**

**Arrival Time: 6.30pm.**

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

**Kris Kringle: Bring a gift to the value of \$10 and mark His, Hers  
or Either.**

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

There will be no Sales Table but every membership 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

Yearly prize winners will be announced.

# President's Report

Welcome to SUMMER!

After a very wet late Spring, we have finally hit the good weather (hopefully!). Genny and I were out walking the dogs a few days ago and we noticed that the mushrooms (not the edible type) are re-emerging. This seems a bit crazy for the start of Summer.

We had a beautiful display of Sarcophilus Orchids at our November meeting. Vice President, David Cannon, commented that it was one of the best Sarc Shows that he'd recently seen. Members who provided plants for the Show can be rightfully proud of their efforts. Congratulations to all our Award winners.

We'll round out the year with our Christmas Dinner on December 19<sup>th</sup> at Parkmore Primary School. As always, there'll be hamper prizes, a Special Effort and plants on which to cast a popular vote.

To all our members and your families, enjoy the time with your loved ones and I am looking forward to seeing you at our Club meetings in 2026.

Michael Chivell

**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:**

**President** Michael Chivell (M) 0402 568 217

**Vice Presidents:** David Cannon (M) 0418 394 282

Ron Coleman

**Secretary:** Leo Orland (M) 0419 884 492:

email [leoorland@totalfundraising.com.au](mailto:leoorland@totalfundraising.com.au)

**Treasurer:** Ron Coleman (M) 0477 311 188

**Committee:** 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

**Membership Secretary:** Edith Yu-Chan

**Newsletter:** Leo Orland

**Floral Art:** Susanne Redpath (M) 0413 138 307

**Website Manager** Heather Coleman

**MOS Website Address** [www.oscov.asn.au /mos](http://www.oscov.asn.au/mos)

**MOS Facebook Address** [www.facebook.com/maroondahorchidsociety](https://www.facebook.com/maroondahorchidsociety)



Silvia receiving her award – Champion Sarcocylus Orchid of the Show



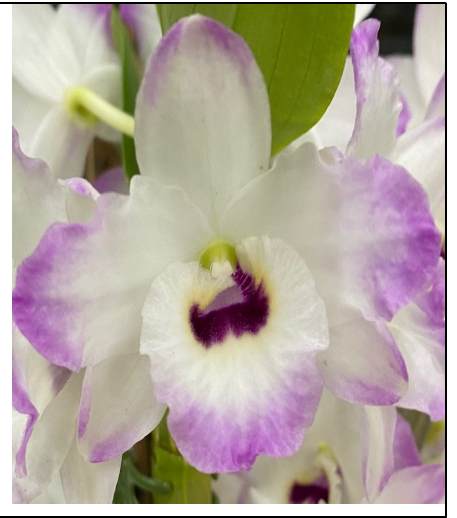
## Interesting Plants From the November Meeting



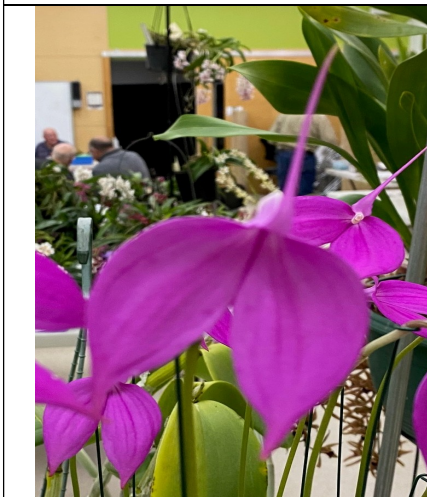
H. Truong's *Dendrobium*  
Stardust



G.&M. Moffat's *Cymbidium*  
Cricket



R. Kasman's *Dendrobium*  
Love Memory 'Fizz'



H. Truong's *Masdevallia*  
*coccinea* Pleasant Pink



C. Luth's *Lycaste*  
*Kooleana x lassioglossa*



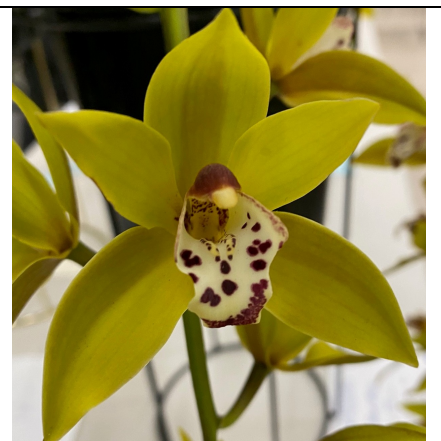
J. Foster-Johnson's *Cattleya*  
*Intermedia* 'Alba'



S. Kappl's *Peristerdilos*  
Olive Grace



C, Gunawan's *Cattleya*  
Blue Velvet Surprise



R.&H. Coleman's  
*Cymbidium* Olive Steet  
Dinh



## Interesting Sarcs at November Meeting

		
S. Kappl's hartmanii	H. Truong's Rachael Emma x Kulnulea Kaliedescop	K. Keily's (Dunno Nickys Twin x Voodoo) x Elegance 'Super Pink'
		
L. Orland's Kulnura Roundup x Kulnura Secure	D. Cannon's Melba	W. Han's Kulnura Dazzel 'Midnight' x Kulnura Lady 'Red Star'
		
G. Chivell's Hartmanii x Fizzy Dove	W. Han's Cherrie Dawn x Heidi	G.&M. Moffat's Kulnura Dip 'Yellow Gold' x Kulnura Taser 'Bethany' (Seedling Flowering for the First Time)

## BENCH COMPETITION - November – 2025

<b>JUDGES VOTE</b>	<b>Dendrobium Stardust</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>H. Truong</b>
<b>POPULAR VOTE</b>	<b>Dendrobium Stardust</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>H. Truong</b>
<b>BEST IN SECTION</b>			
<b>Open</b>	<b>Dendrobium Stardust</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>H. Troung</b>
<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Cymbidium Cricket</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>R.&amp;H. Coleman</b>
<b>Novice</b>	<b>Dendrobium Love Memory ‘Fizz’</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>W. Han</b>
	<b>Open Section</b>		
<b>Cymbidium Miniature</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Cricket ‘Invincible’</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>G.&amp;M. Moffat</b>
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Miss Muffet</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>G.&amp;M. Moffat</b>
	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sweet Devon</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>C. Gunawan</b>
<b>Masdevallia Hybrid</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Kimballiana x Chapalana x Midus Touch ‘Crown Vista’</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>C. Luth</b>
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> My Copper ‘Best Spotty’</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>C. Luth</b>
	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Machu Pichu</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>J. Foster-Johnson</b>
<b>Masdevallia Species</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> coccinea v. Pleasant Pink</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>H. Truong</b>
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> coccinea v. cerise</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>H. Truong</b>
	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> coccinea v. Wayne Miller</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>C. Luth</b>
<b>Dendrobium Hybrid</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Stardust</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>H. Truong</b>
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Larapinta</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>J. Foster-Johnson</b>
	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Mid Yumi Lotus</b>		

<b>Lycaste</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> lassioglossa</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>C. Luth</b>
<b>Paphiopedilum Species</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> hirsuitsmun</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>S. Kappl</b>
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> venustum</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>C. Gunawan</b>
<b>Oncidiinae Large</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Balleria Tohamu</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>L. Orland</b>
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Balleria Tohamu Glacier</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>C. Luth</b>
<b>Oncidiinae Small</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Cyrtocidium Kolibri</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>C. Luth</b>
<b>Australian Native - Dendrobium Species</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> flecheri</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>S. Kappl</b>
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> prentici</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>J. Foster-Johnson</b>
<b>Cymbidium Species</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> devonianum</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>C. Luth</b>
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> sanderæ</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>A. Baker</b>
	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> suave</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>S. Kappl</b>
<b>Coelogyne Species</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> mooreana ‘Brockhurst’</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>D. Tung</b>
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> lawrenceana</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>C. Luth</b>
	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> ochracea</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>C. Luth</b>
<b>Laeliinae Large</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Blue Velvet Surprise</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>C. Gunawan</b>
<b>Laeliinae Minature</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Catt. Tangerine Jewel x Love Somd</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>C. Luth</b>
<b>Laeliinae Cluster &amp; Novelty</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Anosie Sunset ‘Cosmic Fire’ x Dal’s Emperor ‘Arcadia’</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>J. Foster-Johnson</b>
<b>Any Other Hybrid</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Zygo ‘Happy Bay ,Lime Apple’ x Bali Mist</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>G.&amp; M. Moffat</b>
<b>Species Any Genera - Other</b>	<b>Dendrobium normadiyense</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>S. Kappl</b>
<b>Species Any Genera – The America’s</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Cattleya intermedia ‘alba’</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>J. Foster-Johnson</b>
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Cattleya intermedia</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>C. Luth</b>

<b>Species Any Genera - Asia</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vanda ampullace</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>S. Kappl</b>
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Dendrobium hancockil</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>H. Truong</b>
	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Denedrobium thysiflorum</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>L. Orland</b>
	<b>Intermediate</b>		
<b>Intermedium Cymbidium</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Olive Street</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>R.&amp;H. Coleman</b>
<b>Minature Cymbidium</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Dean Roesler Jaffa</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>Tu Le</b>
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Cricket</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>R.&amp;H. Coleman</b>
<b>Dendrobium</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Stardust #2</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>J. Wong</b>
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Scorianum</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>J. Wong</b>
	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Stardust #1</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>J. Wong</b>
<b>Australian Native – Dendrobium Species</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> flecheri</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>G. Chivell</b>
	<b>Novice</b>		
<b>Masdevallia Hybrid</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Orange Crush</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>P. &amp; Y Lock</b>
<b>Masdevallia Species</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> coccinea Alba</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>R. Kasman</b>
<b>Dendrobium</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Love Memory ‘Fizz’</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>W. Han</b>
	<b>OPEN</b>		
<b>Seedling Flowering for the First Time</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Cymbidium sanderae</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>A. Baker</b>
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Zygo. Happy Bay x Bali Mist</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>G. &amp; M. Moffat</b>



## Club Cultural Awards

<b>Dendrobium Stardust</b>	<b>H. Truong</b>
<b>Masdevallia coccinea v. Pleasant Pink</b>	<b>H. Truong</b>

## Sarcochilus Club Show Results

<b>Champion Sarcochilus of the Night</b>	<b>hartmanii</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>S. Kappl</b>
	<b>Open</b>		
<b>Best Classic Shape - White</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Melba</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>D. Cannon</b>
<b>Best Classic Shape – Red/Pink</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> (Dunno Nickys Twin x Voodoo) x Elegance ‘Super Pink’</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>K. Keily</b>
<b>Best Classic Shape – Any Other Colour/Combination of Colours</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Kulnura Roundup x Kulnura Secure</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>L. Orland</b>
<b>Best Novelty Shape – Open Shaped Plants (e.g. Australis etc.)</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Peristerchilus Olive Grace</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>S. Kappl</b>
<b>Best Species</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> hartmanii</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>S. Kappl</b>
<b>Best Speciman (Hybrid/Species)</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Rachel Emma</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>H. Truong</b>
<b>Seedling Flowering for the First Time</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Kulnura Dip Yellow x Kulnura Taser Bethany</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>G.&amp;M. Moffat</b>
	<b>Other Than Open Section</b>		
<b>Best Classic Shape – White</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> hartmanii x Fizzy Dove</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>G. Chivell</b>
<b>Best Classic Shape – Red/Pink</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Dazzel ‘Midnight’ x Kulnura Lady ‘Red Star’</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>W. Han</b>
<b>Best Classic Shape – Any Other Colour/Combination of Colours</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Piccanninny ‘Ky’ x Kulnura Dazzel ‘Polka’</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>W. Han</b>
<b>Best Species</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> hartmanii ‘Blue Knob’</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>R.&amp;H. Coleman</b>

<b>Best Speciman</b>	<b>Piccaninny ‘Ky’ x Kulnura Dazzel</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>W. Han</b>
<b>Seedling Flowering for the First Time</b>	<b>Kulnura Secure x Kulnura Max</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>G. Chivell</b>

### Points tally – 2025

<b>Open</b>	<b>Points</b>
<b>J Foster-Johnson</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>S. Kappl</b>	<b>151</b>
<b>C Luth</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>A. Baker</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>C. Gunawan</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>J. Harnetty</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>B. Clemson</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>D. Wiese</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>G. &amp; M. Moffat</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>L. Orland</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>D. Cannon</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>K. Balogh</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>L. Le</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>H. Truong</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>K. Keily</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>D. Tung</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>S. Pantelejenko</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Intermediate</b>	
<b>Tu Le</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>G. Chivell</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>R. &amp; H. Coleman</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>J. Wong</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Novice</b>	
<b>W. Han</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>T. Pham</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>R. Kasman</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>S. Liu</b>	<b>21</b>

<b>Pauline and Yuen Lock</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>R. Solowiej</b>	<b>9</b>

## MANAGING A MIXED COLLECTION

by Brian Milligan

I'm occasionally asked the question "How do you water a mixed collection of orchids?" Thoughtfully is the simple answer! Sprinkler systems water all orchids within their reach uniformly, regardless of their needs. Unless you have several shade-houses or glasshouses that you can devote to different groups of orchids, watering by automatic sprinkler systems will not give best results (besides being illegal in this time of drought).

Hand watering is much more selective, provided that the grower recognises those orchids that need more frequent watering than others. The period between watering depends not only on the orchid genus concerned but also on the nature of the potting mix and the time of year. Cattleyas and some other orchids with thick roots like to dry out before being watered again, whereas others with fine roots, such as odontoglossums and masdevallias, prefer to be kept uniformly moist. Orchids potted in open bark mixes need to be watered twice as often as those grown in sphagnum moss.

And many orchids (but certainly not all) need a comparatively dry 'resting period' during winter.

To succeed with a mixed collection you must recognise the individual requirements of your orchids and group them accordingly. For a start, group all those orchids potted in moss separately, so that they can be watered less often than the others. Then the cattleyas should be grouped together, so that they can be allowed to dry out before they are watered again.

The cattleyas should be hung near the roof, or placed where they receive more light than most other orchids. One end of my glasshouse is covered with a second layer of shade cloth during summer, so that I can grow cattleyas and other light-loving orchids at one end, and odontoglossums and masdevallias at the other (shadier) end.

Contrary to most advice, I grow a few plants beneath the benches in my glasshouse, and find that some seedlings do well there, especially in summer. If you grow orchids beneath your benches, you will need to install a 'drip tray' immediately below the top bench to prevent water falling on the plants below. A small fan to provide air circulation beneath the bench is also recommended. Do not place flowering plants



beneath the benches, because their flower stems invariably elongate and twist as they search for more light.

Watering in summer is easier to manage than it is in winter. Most orchids need frequent and regular watering in summer, the main growing season. It is difficult to over-water them, provided that the potting mix is free draining. Watering in winter is another matter, and for success you really need to know the conditions under which the various genera live in nature. Some orchids, like *Laelia anceps*, receive little or no rain during winter in their native Mexican mountains, although the weather is sometimes foggy. On the other hand, orchids growing on mountains in the Philippines receive rain nearly every day, summer and winter.

In summary, the best way to manage a mixed collection of orchids is to learn their individual requirements, group them accordingly, and then treat each group separately. In practice it's easier said than done, especially when it comes to hybrids between species or genera with different requirements. No doubt you will have to compromise but take heart from the fact that orchids growing in nature regularly experience droughts, floods, heat waves, cold spells and attacks by pests and diseases, yet still survive. If you get things right, you should be able to grow them better than they usually do in the wild!

## HOW TO GROW PHALAENOPSIS ORCHIDS INDOORS

by Bill Mather

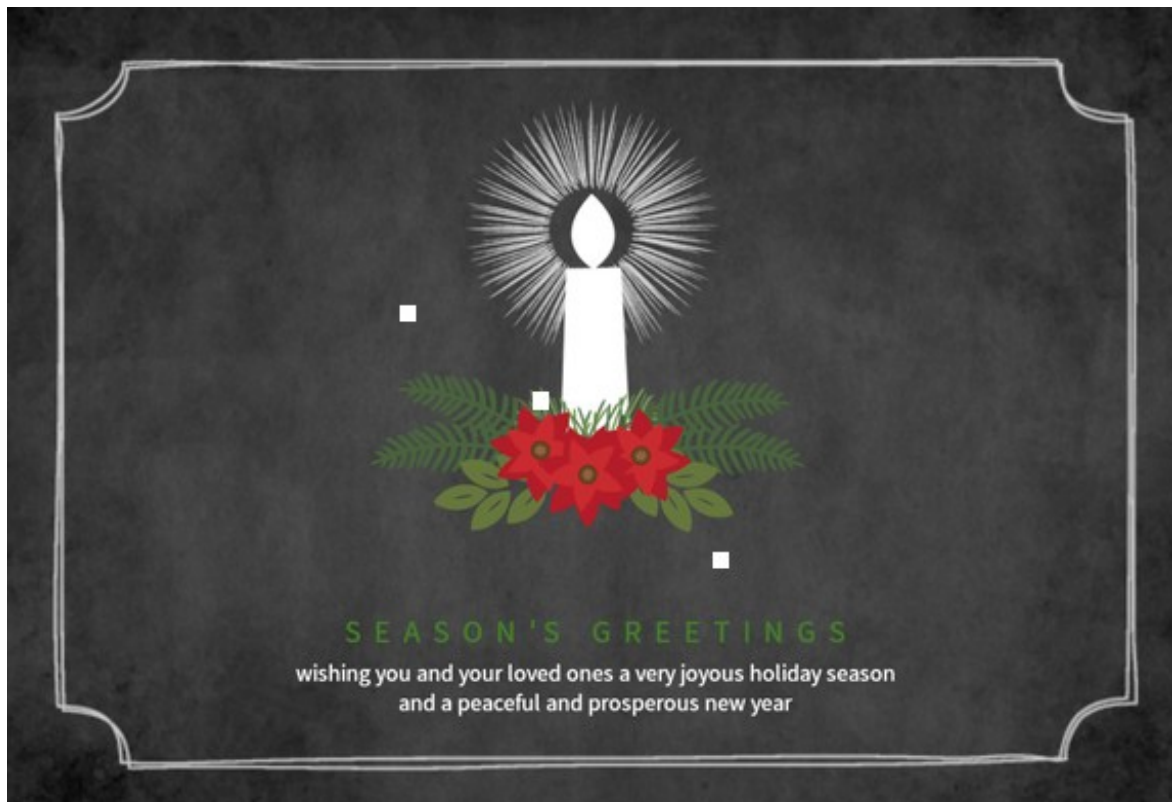
*Phalaenopsis* is a genus of about 35 species of tropical orchids, originating mostly in the hot and humid low lands of the Philippines, India, Indochina, Indonesia and northern Australia. Many of their hybrids produce long, arching sprays carrying ten or more white, pink, candy-striped or even yellow blooms. *Phalaenopsis* orchids are ideally grown within the temperature range of 18-28°C. However, they can be grown and flowered successfully indoors on a window sill if the pots are stood on (not in) a tray of wet gravel in order to maintain a high level of humidity; a low overnight temperature of 12°C will not set them back, providing the room is warmer during daylight hours.

**Potting.** Plants grow well when potted in an open pine bark mix (10-18 mm), producing firm, thick, healthy, creamy-white roots with olive-green tips. Care should be taken when repotting because these active roots are very brittle and easily broken. Don't be concerned if the roots climb out of the pot. Repot at about three-year intervals, after removing dead and damaged roots and leaves.

**Light, Air Movement, Watering And Fertilising.** Exposure of the plants to half light (for example behind a muslin or lace curtain on a window sill), good air movement and daily watering will keep the plant actively growing and healthy. Water early in the day, so that the leaves dry by nightfall. Most fertilisers are beneficial, provided that they are used at low concentration is (say, one teaspoonful of Aquasol® per 10 L water) every week or two.

**Flowering.** Well grown plants flower twice each year, usually in autumn and spring. The flowers continue to grow in size after the buds first open. There are usually three or four blooms when the plant first flowers but in the second and subsequent seasons you can expect a tall, arching spike carrying seven to ten blooms, sometimes more. If your plant responds well to your conditions of culture, you may choose not to remove the old flower spike (it usually lasts for two months) but to cut it above a node, thereby initiating a secondary spike, which will flower about 90 days later.

**Pests And Diseases.** Check the underside of the leaves occasionally for mealy bugs and scale, which can be killed by brushing with methylated spirits. Sometimes the flowers are disfigured by brown spots, caused by air borne fungal spores (*Botrytis* sp.). It is a temporary, seasonal hazard induced when the flowers remain wet overnight in cool conditions. Water lodging at the conjunction of the leaves under these conditions may also lead to the development of brown rot in the crown of the plant. Use a paper tissue to remove water lodged in the crown before it can cause problems. Rots are best treated with the fungicide Natriphene®.



## LAST THOUGHT

- Why did the Christmas tree get in trouble?  
Because it couldn't stop "branching" out!
- What do elves learn in school?  
The elf-abet!
- Why did Santa's helper see a therapist?  
Because he had *low elf-esteem*.
- What do you call Santa when he takes a break?  
Santa *Pause*.

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.