

MAROONDAH ORCHID SOCIETY

INCORPORATED

MONTHLY NEWS LETTER

Lycastes are orchids of the
New World Tropics and Subtropics



Lycaste Club Emblem

Volume : 49 - Issue : 6

Next Meeting: Friday – 17 July 2026

Venue:

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

ITEM OF THE EVENING: John Varigos – Dresden Orchid Show

WINTER SHOW – In House

Topical Chat: Preparation for OSCOV Show

Time: 8.00PM

Supper: Please bring a plate

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

Sales Table: Leanne Le - Pots, stakes, labels and hangers

President's Report

Once again, our June meeting was our Auction night.

Although we had a rather small gathering, our resident auctioneer, David Cannon was in great form. Nobody dared blink or scratch their nose lest they find themselves going home with a new plant and a few dollars lighter!

I want to thank those members who donated plants, pots, books, hangers and growing paraphernalia. And to those who opened their wallets, thank you very much.

Next month is our Winter Show, so please bring as many plants as you can to help create a great display. We are also delighted to have John Varigos, recently appointed President of the World Orchid Conference Trust (WOCT) and Co-Chair of the Australian Orchid Foundation. John will be giving a presentation on 24th World Orchid Conference which was held in Dresden, Germany.

So, between the Winter Show and John's presentation, this meeting is a must for all orchid lovers

Michael Chivell

WINTER SHOW – IN HOUSE

The July Meeting will be our winter show meeting for 2025. The format for the night will be a sash for the Champion Orchid of the night and there will be prizes for the classes listed below. (Open section class will stand alone with the Intermediate and Novice sections grouped together.)

- Best Cymbidium of the Show.
- Best Australian Native of the Show.
- Best Paphiopedilum of the Show.
- Best Hybrid any other Genera of the Show (Excluding Cymbidium, Australian Native, and Paphiopedilum orchids).
- Best Species of the Show.
- Best Specimen of the Show.

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, Alan & 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
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
MOS Facebook Address	www.facebook.com/maroonidahorchidsociety

REMINDER: Membership Renewal

Fees were due 1st July 2026

The membership fees for financial year 2026 /2027 Adult (single) \$20.00, Family \$25.00, Junior (16 years and under) \$5.00

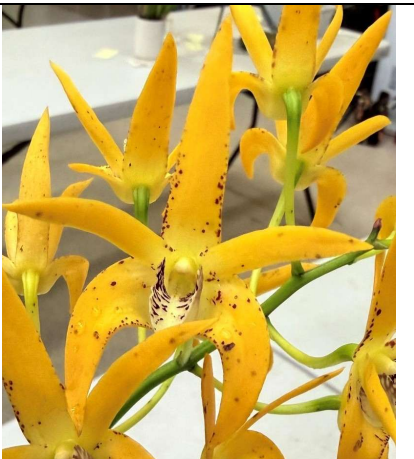
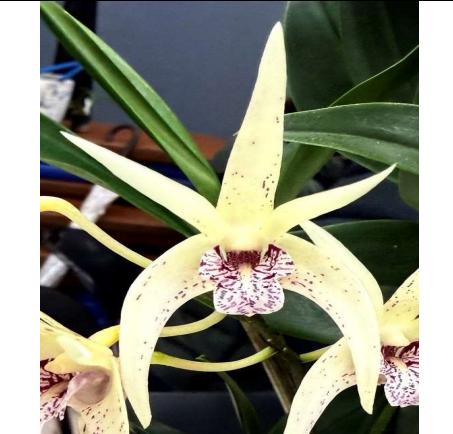
Please note – to enter or sell plants at the Spring Show a member must be a financial member no later than the Members' Meeting (19 September 2025).

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!

Interesting Plants From the June Meeting

		
D. Cannon's Cymbidium Cani Gordan	Tu Le's Dendrobium Avril's Gold 'Louanne'	S. Kappl's Paphiopedilum Fairrieanum 'Louis'
		
W. Han's Dendrobium Cream Sparkle	K. Keily's Bulbophyllum Mastersianum	J. Harnetty's Bakerara Sea Snake 'Unforgettable'
		
J. Foster-Johnson's Paphiopedallum Rosey Dawn	J. Foster Johnston's Cattleya Bonringiara x loddigessi	G. & M. Moffat's Cymbidium Enzan Shining 'Royale Flame'

BENCH COMPETITION - June – 2026

JUDGES VOTE	Cymbidium Cani Gordan	c	D. Cannon
POPULAR VOTE	Isabelia pulchella	c	S. Kappl
BEST IN SECTION			
Open	Cymbidium Can Gordan	c	D. Cannon
Intermediate	Dendrobium Avril's Gold	c	Tu Le
Novice	Dendrobium Cream Sparkle	c	W. Han
	Open Section		
Standard Cymbidium	1st Twilight Gold x Coraki Glowing	c	L. Orland
	2nd Pyarmbet x traycanum	c	L. Orland
Intermediate Cymbidium	1st Enzan Shining	c	G.&M. Moffat
Miniature Cymbidium	1st Cani Gordan	c	D. Cannon
	2nd Sleeping Beauty x Janis Lin	c	L. Orland
Masdevallia Hybrid	1st Rein Touch	c	J. Foster-Johnson
	2nd Earl Bishop	c	J. Foster-Johnson
	3rd Kinara 'Pretty Flamingo'	c	J. Foster-Johnson

Paphiopedilum	1st Rosey Dawn	c	J. Foster-Johnson
	2nd Leyburnense	c	J. Foster-Johnson
Paphiopedilum Species	1st fairrieanum “Louis”		S. Kappl
Oncidium Large	1st Bakerara Sea Snake	c	J. Harnetty
Oncidium Medium	1st (Nona x Flexuosum) x Enderianum #4	c	J. Foster-Johnson
	2nd (Nona x Flexuosum) x Enderianum #2	c	J. Foster-Johnson
	3rd Pacific Paronola	c	K. Keily
Australian Native - Dendrobium Hybrid	1st Avril’s Gold	c	J. Foster-Johnson
	2nd Aussie Chilo	c	J. Foster-Johnson
Australian Native – Species	1st tetragonum	c	B. Clemson
	2nd aemulum	c	G. Chivel
Laeliinae Intermediate	1st Cattleya Bowringiana x loddigessi	c	J. Foster-Johnson
Any Other Hybrid	1st Sartylis Blue Knob	C	J. Foster-Johnson
	2nd Coelogyne Linda Buckley	c	J. Foster-Johnson
	3rd Amphion Axios	c	L. Orland
Species Any Genera – The America’s	1st Isabelia pulchella	c	S. Kappl
	2nd Laelia guldiana	c	K. Keily
	3rd Maxillaria picta	c	J. Harnetty

Species Any Genera – Asia	1st Bulbophyllum mastersianum	c	K. Keily
	2nd Mediocalcar decoratum	c	S. Kappl
	3rd Coelogyne mooreana	c	G.&M. Moffat
Species Any Genera - Other	1st Diplodinium repandum	c	J. Foster- Johnson
	2nd Pterstylis repandum	c	J. Harnetty
	Intermediate Section		
Minature Cymbidium	1st Morialta ‘Morialta Falls’	c	R. & H. Coleman
Australian Native – Dendrobium Hybrid	1st Avril’s Gold ‘Louanna’	c	Tu Leo
	Novice Section		
Miniature Cymbidium	1st Cherry Blossum	c	W. Han
Australian Native – Dendrobium Hybrid	1st Cream Sparkle	c	W. Han

Points tally – 2026

Open	Points
J Foster-Johnson	92
S. Kappl	24
C Luth	24
D. Cannon	8
C. Gunawan	25
A. Baker	4
D. Weise	19

L. Le	7
G. Chivell	8
G. & M. Moffat	19
L. Orland	21
B. Clemson	18
J. Harnetty	31
J. Wong	4
R. Kasman	4
K. Keily	10
Intermediate	
Tu Le	15
Jenny Wong	23
R. & H. Coleman	8
Novice	Points
S. Liu	7
Y. & P. Lock	4
W. Han	7

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 cm², with a mean of about 3000 per cm² – an incredible number, when one considers that 1 cm² is about the area of a fingernail!

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

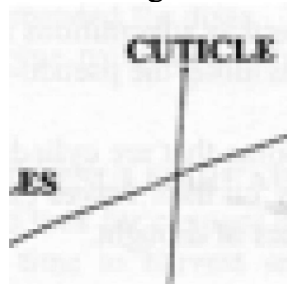
If orchid roots act like a sponge and soak up water and dissolved nutrients, why should we water our plants before we fertilise them? It seems to me that if the roots are already saturated with water, most liquid fertiliser subsequently applied would run to waste!

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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ORCHID SHOWS 2026

Show	Date/Time	Venue
Bayside	Sun 19 July Shopping Centre hours	Endeavour Hills Shopping Centre, Cnr Matthew Flinders Av & Heatherton Rd, Endeavour Hills
Gippsland	21 Aug -22 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 05 Sept 9.00 -4.00, Sun 06 Sept 10-3	VRI Hall, Pettit Drive (Opposite the Sale Railway Station)
MPOS	Fri 11 Sept – Sun 13 Sept bunnings Hours	Cnr McMahons Rd and Gertrude St Frankston
South Gippsland	Fri 11 September, 9.30 -4.30, Sat 12, 9.30-4	Wonthaggi Workmen's Club, 75 Graham Street, Wonthaggi
Cymbidium Orchid Society	Sat 12 Sept 9-4, Sun 13 Sept 9-4	Mt Waverley Community Centre. Miller Crescent, Mt Waverley
NEMOS	Sat 19 Sep, 9-4 Sun 20 Sep 10-4	Bulleen School Manningham Road, Lower Templestowe
Southern Suburbs	Sat. 19 Sept 10 – 4 Sun. 20 Sept 10 - 4	NG Wishart Hall, 964 Nepean Hwy, Moorabbin
Mid-Murray	Sat 19 Sept 10-4, Sun 21 Sept 10-3	Kerang Memorial Hall, Nolan Street Kerang
West Gippsland	Sat 19 Sept 9-4, Sun 20 Sept 9-12	Anglican Church Hall, Cnr. Princes Way & Francis Ave, Drouin.
Geelong	Sat 19 Sept 9-4, Sun 20 Sept 10-3	Christ Church Hall, Cnr. Moorabool and McKillop Streets
Goulburn Valley	Sat 26 Sep, 9-4 Sun 27 Sep 10-3	Mooroopna Mechanics Hall, 41 McLennan St., Mooroopna
Berwick	Sat 26 Sept 9-4, Sun 27 Sept 9-4	Senior Citizens' Hall, 112 High Street, Berwick
Maroondah	Sat 26 Sep, 9-4 Sun 27 Sep 9-3	Parkmore Primary School, 38 Jolimont Rd, Forest Hill
Warrnambool	Sat 3 Oct Sept 10-4, Sun 4 Oct 10 – 3	Our Lady Help of Christian Hall , 28 Selby Rd, Warrnambool
MEOS	Sat 3 Oct, 9-4, Sun 4 Oct, 12-4	Burwood Heights Uniting Church, 347 Blackburn Rd, Burwood East
Ringwood/Yarra Valley	Sat 10 Oct 9-4, Sun 11 Oct 9-4	Keystone Hall 20 Civic Square Croydon 3136

Gippsland	Fri 2 Oct. Sat 3 Oct. Centre Hours	Mid-Valley Shopping Centre, Princess Highway
Bendigo	Fri 2 Oct 1-4, Sat 4 Oct. 10-3	Truscott Reserve 18 Murdock St California Gully
St Arnaud	Sat 10 Oct 9-4, Sun 11 Oct 9-4	Town Hall Napier St. St Arnaud
Colac	Sat 10 Oct 9-4, Sun 11 Oct 10-4	Colac Show Grounds Cnr. Bruce St & Princess Hwy
Cobden	Sat 16 Oct 10-4, Sun 17 Oct 10-4	Civic Hall, Victoria Street
Ballarat	Fri 16 Oct 12-5, Sat 17 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 24 Oct 9 - 5 Sun 25 Oct 9 - 4	Cranbourne Public Hall, 166-168 South Gippsland Hwy
Ringwood / Yarra Valley Orchid Society	Sat 31 Oct, 9-4, Sun 1 Nov 9-3	Keystone Hall, Keystone Hall Civic Square, Croydon
Gippsland Sarc Show	Sat 7 Nov 9-4, Sun 8 Nov 10-3.30	Sale Agricultural Society Dawson Street Sale
Stawell	Sat 7 Nov 10-5, Sun 8 Nov 10-4.00	Senior Citizens Centre, Victoria St., Stawell
MPOS	Fri 13 Nov, Sun 15 Nov. Bunnings Hour	Bunnings Mornington, 1100 Nepean Highway, Mornington

LAST THOUGHT

- **Why don't witches like winter?**
Too many cold spells!
- **Why do birds fly south in the winter?**
Because they can't afford the train!
- **What does a painter do when he gets cold?**
He puts on another coat.
- **Why was the computer cold?**
Because it left its Windows open.

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

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