

The next Meeting of the
Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Inc.
will be held on
Wednesday 27 May 2009
at the
Burnside Community Centre
401 Greenhill Road Tasmore SA

**Meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday
of each month February to November**

Visitors Welcome

Program

- 7.00 pm Auditorium opens, benching of plants and trading table
- 7.15 pm Beginners Class. Note early start time (All Welcome)
- 7.45 pm Viewing of Plants and Popular Vote
- 8.00 pm Official Opening and Presidents Report
- 8.15 pm Seedlings on the Show-bench
- 8.20 pm Charles Mausteller
- 9.00 pm Plant Raffle Draw
- 9.15 pm Popular Vote and Judging Results
- 9.30 pm Close of Meeting and Supper.

THE NEW

CYMBIDIUM NEWS

Published by the Cymbidium Orchid Club of South
Australia Inc.

<http://www.cymorchids.com.au>

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JUDGES CHOICE—BEST SPECIMEN
Peter Pan x Radiant Harry
Grown by John and Sandra Nicholls

Volume 10 Number 4 May 2009

The New Cymbidium News Vol 10 No 4—May 2009

The New Cymbidium News is published monthly – February to November inclusive and is the Official Newsletter of the Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Inc

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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SUPPER ROSTER 2009

Wednesday 27 May	Carmel and June
Wednesday 24 June	Glenn Stearnes
Wednesday 22 July	Pam Leske and Rosemary
Wednesday 26 August	Coralie Hime
Wednesday 23 September	Vacant
Wednesday 28 October	Vacant
Wednesday 25 November	Vacant

Please see Yvonne or Mary Heddle to include your name on the roster. All help appreciated—Thank you

PROGRAM 2009

Wednesday 27 May	Charles Mausteller—early awards
Wednesday 24 June	John Norton—Nutri-Tech Organics
Wednesday 22 July	Judges Forum and Showbench
Wednesday 26 August	Kevin McLean—hybridizing and lab work
Wednesday 23 September	National Show Report
Wednesday 28 October	Kevin Hipkins—Tracyanum
Wednesday 25 November	Roger Herraman—canaliculatum—and Christmas Breakup

NEW MEMBERS

The Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Inc extend a warm welcome to:

CK Goodfellow—New Zealand
Graham King—SA
Rod and Judy McRedmond—SA
Greg Netter—Queensland

NOTICE BOARD

WINTER / SPRING / NATIONAL SHOWS

Winter Show—Munno Para Shopping Centre

Sunday 12 July 2009 to Saturday 18 July 2009

Put-in—Saturday 11 July 2009 after 5.00pm

Spring Show—Westfield—West Lakes

Sunday 23 August 2009 to Saturday 29 August 2009

Put-in—Saturday 22 August 2009 after 5.00pm

National Cymbidium Orchid Show

Springvale—Victoria

Friday 4 September 2009 to Sunday 6 September 2009

Please see page 14 for bus trip information.

SAROC FAIR

SAROC Fair

June 6 and 7 2009

Wyatt Hall—Pulteney Grammar School

190 South Terrace, Adelaide

WEBSITE

Don't forget to check out our website <http://www.cymorchids.com.au>

for back issues of the Cym News with photographs in colour.

If you are best overall winner for the previous month, your winning orchid will feature on the home page

WANTED / FOUND

Don't forget our Wanted Section

Please contact: Peter Hall—pejeh@optusnet.com.au

Telephone: 08 8294 5562 or 0416 179 019



NEUTROG PRODUCTS

- Strike Back for orchids 20 Kg bag \$22
- Sudden Impact for Roses 10 Kg pail \$23
- Sudden Impact for Roses 20 Kg bag \$22
- Seamungus 20 Kg bag \$14.50
- Sudden Impact for Lawns 20 Kg bag \$24.50
- Rapid Raiser 20 Kg bag \$13.50

Please place your orders and payment with John and Yvonne Longbottom—(cheques to be made out to COCSA)

NB: product to be picked up from Graham Morris at Valley Orchids



A/PRESIDENT'S REPORT

May 2009

Welcome members.

Showtime is fast approaching with the SAROC Fair on the June long weekend. All the plants we can muster at that early date for our display will be appreciated.

The workshop last month was a great success with many thanks going to the presenters and to Graham Morris for organising the workshop so well, as he does every year.

The club website is proving very successful with lots of hits, many of the enquiries from people around the world. The site has also generated new members.

The National Show bus trip to Springvale is a 'goer' with bus and accommodation deposits paid. More details and cost breakdown on page 14 of this magazine and at the next club meeting. Thanks go to Peter Hall for organising what will be lots of fun—all the way there and back!

Next meeting, Charles Mausteller from Victoria will be our guest speaker on historical highly awarded and significant breeding plants.

If you can help out with the supper at a club meeting throughout the year, please put your name on the roster which is located with Yvonne Longbottom and Mary Heddle. List of helpers already allocated is located on page 17 of this publication. As you can see we still have vacancies. All help appreciated.

Ray Brady will be back at the helm at the next club meeting. Thanks for your support during Ray's absence.

Wayne Baylis—A/President

EXCURSIONS ... ANYONE?

Wayne Baylis and I were talking the other day about the proposed bus trip to the National Show at Springvale in Victoria, and Wayne suggested that we should think about hiring a bus a couple of times a year to have social gatherings, go to selected locations for sightseeing, BBQ's *etc.*

We would like members to have a think about the proposal of the club being more sociable and going on excursions during the year. Let us know at our May meeting if you think it's a good idea and also think about where you would like to go and what you would like to do. We would like you the members to be more involved in the club and let the committee know if you have any ideas to improve the way we go about running the club.

Peter Hall—pejeh@optusnet.com.au

FOR YOUR INTEREST

I know this has nothing to do with cymbidium orchids, but I thought I'd tell the story anyway.

Jeanne and I are members of the Bromeliad Society and we attended and helped at the National Bromeliad Conference held over the Easter long weekend, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday at the Meridian in Melbourne Street, North Adelaide.

On the Saturday morning there was 3 hours set aside for the sale of plants. The sales were only for people registered for the conference. It was amazing to see. We were flat chat for those 3 hours and the amount of money spent was in excess of \$20,000. The next sales times were for a couple of hours and open to the public and it was very slow, hardly anyone turned up. This is unusual for the Bromeliad Society as their sales days, twice a year are usually very successful. We put it down to being Easter and although notification was sent via a mailing list, it wasn't advertised on radio as it usually is. On Monday morning the sales area was opened up again for 1½ hours. The total sales was in excess of \$30,000 over the Easter holiday period.

On the Saturday night after the official conference dinner there was a rare plant and botanical items auction. I registered for the auction and received a number to hold up to bid for plants, but I didn't use it because the bids mostly started at \$50.00. I was gobsmacked when one plant went for \$400.00,

Single Room (cost per person)

Room \$106 / night per room—2 nights	\$212.00
Bus \$25 each person x 1	\$25.00
Dinner \$30 each person x 1	\$30.00
Entry fee \$5.00 each person x 1	\$5.00
Total	\$272.00

Room has 1 double bed, toaster, coffee and tea making facilities.

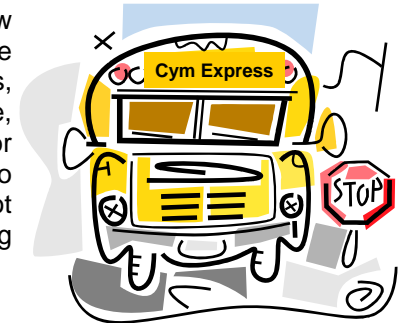
Total Cost for club (including driver's expenses)

Bus hire (paid by COCSA)	\$2590.00
Trailer hire	\$117.00
Accommodation (driver)	\$212.00
Dinner (driver)	\$30.00
Entry fee (driver)	\$5.00
Meals (driver—estimate only)	\$90.00
Total	\$3044.00

We still have a couple of places left on the bus. If interested, please let us know as soon as possible as accommodation is filling up fast.

We're looking forward to a fun trip with a few surprises for members. We decided to hire the trailer for the bus for a couple of reasons, firstly so we're not crowded with our luggage, and secondly, so we've plenty of room for any purchases made. We also decided to hire a driver so members could relax and not have to worry about sharing driving responsibilities.

Roll on September!



VISITS TO OTHER GROWERS

When Jeanne and I first joined COCSA, Graham Morris, through the Beginner's Group, organised for new members to visit the more experienced growers in our club. I found this very useful and a good way to establish relationships within the club. I visited perhaps five or six different back-yard growers and all were so very hospitable and friendly that I felt much more part of the club and more confident when speaking to members at meetings. I also learned a lot with regards to my own collection.

We are trying again to organise visits for the new members. Please see either Jeanne or I at the next club meeting if you are interested in either visiting or, for the more experienced growers, being visited.

COST BREAKDOWN FOR NATIONAL SHOW TRIP

Couples (cost per couple)

Room \$118 / night—2 nights	\$236.00
Bus \$25 each person x 2	\$50.00
Dinner \$30 each person x 2	\$60.00
Entry fee \$5.00 each person x 2	\$10.00
Total	\$356.00

Room has 1 queen size bed, toaster, coffee and tea making facilities.

Twin Share (cost per person)

Room \$120 / night per room (\$60.00 each person)—2 nights	\$120.00
Bus \$25 each person x 1	\$25.00
Dinner \$30 each person x 1	\$30.00
Entry fee \$5.00 each person x 1	\$5.00
Total	\$180.00

Room has 1 double bed, 1 single bed, toaster, coffee and tea making facilities.

another for \$600.00 then another for \$700.00. The most expensive plant bit was for \$2,000 (and it was a pup!). The auction raised \$9,700 for just 32 items.

It was a great experience for both Jeanne and I, we had a very enjoyable four days at the conference.

Peter Hall—pejeh@optusnet.com.au

Chuckie Blog Archive

 Sunday May 3, 2009

[Seeing Red - Cymbidium Ruby Eyes and friends](#)



The breeding of true red in Cymbidiums has been a goal of many growers since the inception of hybridization in the genus. One of the first 'Red' Cymbidiums was C. Ceres 'F. C Hanbury'. There is considerable doubt over the true identity of good old 'F. C. Hanbury' but it remains one of the true studs of red breeding. Remakes of C. Ceres, as you can see from the pictures below, are not even close to red, more a pink overlay on yellow or a slightly reddish brown. It is hard to imagine the dark rich colours of today's complex hybrids coming from such lowly

beginnings.

A very productive line of breeding in reds was kicked off by the production of Cymbidium Ruby Eyes. In 1978, the year C. Ruby Eyes was registered, and the period shortly thereafter, Australia had a bit of a reputation for the production of red hybrids. I remember visiting several orchid nurseries in the early 1980's



specifically to see what were rumoured to be some of the best red cymbidiums in the world. Wondabah Orchids was one of these nurseries. Needless to say C. Ruby Eyes came out of the stable of this once world renown orchid nursery.



Cymbidium Ruby Eyes is the offspring of the most unlikely of parents. Imagine crossing a large showbench standard with intense colour with a miniature species. It is like crossing a Great Dane with a Chihuahua! Luckily, the pod parent was C. floribundum (pumilum) that great species that is not very discriminating with regard to who it will mate with. Unfortunately, if the 2N forms are used there can be problems with sterility in the resulting progeny. The other parent was C. Sensation, another good breeder. Another child of C. Sensation is the beautiful C. Flame Hawk. Below are two examples to give you some sort of idea of what the parents looked like.

Neither of the plants pictured are the actual cultivars used to produce C. Ruby Eyes but are probably not far off.



The marriage between C. floribundum and Sensation created quite a stir. Here was a match made in heaven. One of the qualities of C. Sensation that contributed to the success of C. Ruby Eyes is that although the flowers are large and

quite normal for a standard the plants are relatively small. Another interesting feature of C. Sensation is that the pseudobulbs are remarkably round, halfway between the size of a handball and a tennis ball. The leaves are relatively narrow for a standard.

There are numerous cultivars of C. Ruby Eyes doing the rounds in the orchid world. The most famous of these is C. Ruby Eyes 'Red Baron'. I will get back to this cultivar in a minute. It is worthwhile to note that there are actually better quality cultivars such as: 'Royal Show', 'Tokushima', 'Paradisea' the list goes on. There are also imposters going under the name of



JUDGES CHOICE—BEST IN FIRST DIVISION
Sundaani Autumn 'Sally Amber'
grown by: Pauline Hockey

A miniature brown with a red blotched labellum. Lots of flowers on a good sized spike. It's easy to see the species in the background and another first flowering seedling.



JUDGES CHOICE—BEST IN SECOND DIVISION
Valentine's Love 'Leanne'
grown by: Steve Howlett

A nice lime coloured miniature green with a good sized red labellum, and once again you can see a species in the breeding. It's also another first flowering seedling and grown by one of our newer members, Steve Howlett—well done Steve!



SECOND DIVISION

Miniature Green First Prize	Valentine's Love 'Leanne'	Steve Howlett
Miniature Green Second Prize	Valentine's Love 'Leanne'	Steve Howlett

PLANT WRITE UP APRIL 2009

JUDGES CHOICE—ORCHID OF THE NIGHT / BEST IN OPEN DIVISION

Everglades x Red Beauty
grown by: John and Sandra Nicholls

A nice shaped brown intermediate with a deep red labellum. Not a lot of flowers but a good straight spike well above the foliage and a first flowering seedling.



'Red Baron' . Some growers have taken on the task of coming up with an improved C. Ruby Eyes by remaking the original cross but using different parents. The results have been variable but have not really been an improvement on the original. Several of the original cross are still floating around but have never been named. One of these is a plant that I have grown for years. It did not meet the standard of being a red but it is a pretty plant none-the-less. It will never get bred with because it has a flaw that can be passed on. See if you can work out what the flaw is from the picture below. No it is not a virus that is the problem. I reckon this cultivar actually has a very beautiful labellum, much more clearly and delicately marked than any cultivar I have seen.

The problem is a that some cultivars suffer from partial petal peloria. This shows up as color breaks in the petals, or in the case of my pretty little plant, callus ridges occurring on the petals. Although in fully peloric flowers these callus ridges would be yellow or white, like those on the normal labellum, those on my plant are a deep black/red. You can also see a partial colour break on the left petal of the centre flower.



This partial peloria can be passed on to progeny. Several hybrids of C. Ruby Eyes, can exhibit this genetic fault. Some that I have seen this mutation occur in are Radiant Ruby, Ruby Doll, Ten Pin and Inky Dink. In one group of seedlings that I have flowered out of the hybrid C. Ruby Eyes X Fascella there were a few that strongly exhibited odd petals.



Cymbidium Ten Pin can also exhibit partial peloria but only in some individual plants. Two examples are giving below. The first plant is normal and shows no signs of genetic faults. The second has the remnants of calli on the petals as evidenced by the dark red base to the petals tapering through the whole of the petal.

While many people see Peloria as an interesting phenomenon, I find it a deformity. There are some collectors out



Cymbidium Ten Pin (normal)

there that have collections of both Petal and Sepal Pelorics. To me it is the equivalent of Hip Displasia in German Shepherds. The kennel clubs try to eliminate from the breeding program dogs that exhibit the trait. Maybe we should do the same if we want to breed stable, high quality plants. To this end, I make the outlandish suggestion that we should eliminate C. Ruby Eyes 'Red Baron' from future breeding. I qualify this by adding that those 'Red Baron' with the petal deformity. There is strong evidence that not all the 'Red Baron' out there are the genuine cultivar. If you need an example of this go to your friendly web-based image browser and see the variation in what is called C. Ruby Eyes 'Red Baron'. Be particularly careful when purchasing meristem produced plants.

Mass multiplication of orchids through meristem culture is known to cause genetic deformities, many of which are undesirable. Cymbidium Ruby Eyes 'Red Baron' is one of those plants that is mass produced by meristem propagation.

Plants bred either directly or indirectly from C. Ruby Eyes now number in the hundreds. C. Ruby Eyes alone has been used as a pod parent at least 15 times and as a pollen parent at least 80 times. This plant is still being used in breeding programs and will probably continue to contribute for years to come. Its primary use is in the breeding of red pendulous, miniatures and intermediate Cymbidiums. This large number of offspring and its continued use in breeding programs is remarkable considering it is 31 years old. That is amazing staying power for any hybrid. Hopefully if we continue to use this outstanding plant we will select and use cultivars that do not exhibit genetic mutations. If we use 'clean' plants of C. Ruby Eyes and its offspring we will certainly be in-the-black financially but in-the-red in regard to high quality, high colour cymbidiums.



Cymbidium Ten Pin (slight petal mutation)

Just as a post script, on the next page is a picture of one of the offspring of C. Sensation, the very beautiful C. Flame Hawk.

OPEN DIVISION

Intermediate Pure Colour First Prize	Enzan Summer 'Ben'	Ben Knobben
Miniature Cream First Prize	Species dayanum	Helmuth Gerber
Miniature Pink First Prize	Kauilani 'Summer Dream'	Helmuth Gerber
Miniature Brown First Prize	Morris West 'Rob'	Gordon and Coralie Hime

FIRST DIVISION

Intermediate White First Prize	Sundaani Breeze	Pauline Hockey
Miniature Green First Prize	Millennium Love	Pauline Hockey
Miniature Mauve First Prize	Sundaani Autumn 'Daybreak'	Pauline Hockey
Miniature Mauve Second Prize	Sundaani Autumn 'Evening Glow'	Pauline Hockey
Miniature Mauve Third Prize	Sundaani Autumn 'Fragrant Gold'	Pauline Hockey
Miniature Green First Prize	Sundaani Autumn 'Sky Rockets'	Pauline Hockey
Miniature Brown First Prize	Sundaani Autumn 'Sally Amber'	Pauline Hockey

Monthly Competition Results For 22 April 2009

JUDGES CHOICE


Best Overall	Everglades x Red Beauty	John and Sandra Nicholls
Best in Open Division	Everglades x Red Beauty	John and Sandra Nicholls
Best in First Division	Sundaani Autumn 'Sally Amber'	Pauline Hockey
Best in Second Division	Valentine's Love 'Leanne'	Steve Howlett
Best Intermediate Seedling	Everglades x Red Beauty	John and Sandra Nicholls
Best Miniature Seedling	Sundaani Autumn 'Sally Amber'	Pauline Hockey
Best Specimen	Peter Pan x Radiant Harry	John and Sandra Nicholls

OPEN DIVISION

Intermediate Pink First Prize	Peter Pan x Radiant Harry	John and Sandra Nicholls
Intermediate Brown First Prize	Everglades x Red Beauty	John and Sandra Nicholls



Cymbidium Flame Hawk 'Lipper'
(flower just opening)

Posted by Chuckie 
SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2009

SAROC FAIR

The SAROC Fair is coming up on the June long-weekend, Saturday 6 June 2009, 12.00 to 5.00pm and Sunday 7 June 2009, 10.00am to 4.00pm. The venue is the *Pulteney Grammar School Wyatt Hall*, 170 South Terrace, Adelaide.

COCSA will be once again putting in a display. We ask that members help out by lending some plants to help make our exhibit a winner. Put-in is on the Friday evening at 6pm, 5 June. Ben Knobben will be organising the display and along with Peter and Jeanne Hall welcome any willing helpers.

It's usually a good show and great to catch up with members from other clubs and societies.

- Orchid plants
- Display competitions
- Orchid raffles
- Orchid sales from leading South Australian commercial growers
- Orchid workshop and potting demonstrations
- Sausage sizzle and refreshments—all weekend
- \$2.00 admission (includes complementary cup of tea/coffee)
- Club members—please wear your club badge.

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Tom Burian Orchids

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