

The next Meeting of the  
**Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Inc.**  
will be held on  
**Wednesday 26 November 2008**  
at the  
**Burnside Community Centre**  
**401 Greenhill Road Tasmore SA**

**Meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 Guest Speaker—Justin Priddy—Queensland
- 9.00 pm Plant Raffle Draw
- 9.15 pm Popular Vote and Judging Results

THE NEW

# CYMBIDIUM NEWS

Published by the Cymbidium Orchid Club of South  
Australia Inc.

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

Print Post Approved PP 531637/00030



**JUDGES CHOICE—BEST OVERALL  
BEST IN SECOND DIVISION**

**Sweet Devon '1103'**

*grown by: John Moon*

Volume 9 Number 10 November 2008

# The New Cymbidium News Vol 9 No 10—November 2008

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

Contact: Peter Hall (Editor): [pejeh@optusnet.com.au](mailto:pejeh@optusnet.com.au)

## President

Ray Brady  
Locked Bag 1  
Smithfield SA 5114  
Phone 8252 3812

## Treasurer

Andrew Nowakowski  
3 Banksia Crescent  
Athelstone SA 5076  
Phone 8365 1987

## Secretary

Jeanne Hall  
18 Coorilla Avenue  
Glenelg North SA 5045  
Phone 8294 5562

**PATRON:**  
**Leon van Rijn**

## Registrar of Judges

Ben Knobben  
10 Carlo Street  
Kidman Park 5025  
Phone 8356 0215

Email: [pejeh@optusnet.com.au](mailto:pejeh@optusnet.com.au)

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

|                |                |                       |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Wayne Baylis   | (08) 8235 0340 | Senior Vice President |
| Graham Morris  | (08) 8327 3955 | Junior Vice President |
| Murray Weston  | (08) 8337 6471 | (1 Year Term)         |
| Hazel Alsop    |                | (1 Year Term)         |
| Des Alsop      |                | (1 Year Term)         |
| Peter Hall     | (08) 8294 5562 | (1 Year Term)         |
| Glenn Stearnes | (08) 8266 0471 | (1 Year Term)         |

## CONTENTS

|   |    |
|---|----|
| President's Report -----                          | 1  |
| Club News-----                                    | 2  |
| Lime, Calcium and pH—Stephen Early -----          | 4  |
| The Pure Sarah 'Cascade' Story—Graham Morris----- | 6  |
| Competition Results-----                          | 10 |
| Plant Write Up -----                              | 12 |
| Funnies from Denise Brady -----                   | 14 |
| Notice Board -----                                | 17 |
| Justin Priddy-----                                | 17 |
| Program for 2008 -----                            | 18 |

## Advertisers Index

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Valley Orchids -----               | 8 |
| Pauline's Laboratory Service ----- | 8 |
| Tom Burian Orchids-----            | 9 |

## COPYRIGHT

All contributions in the New Cymbidium News, which have acknowledged authors, are automatically covered by copyright. We believe that most authors would be willing to allow free use of articles for publishing elsewhere if written approval is sought through the Secretary of this Club

## SUPPER ROSTER 2008

Wednesday 26 November Geoff Spear / Rosemary Bray

*Many thanks to all the volunteers—all meetings now filled!*

## PROGRAM 2008

Wednesday 26 November Justin Priddy from Gympie—Qld

## JUSTIN PRIDDY

Justin Priddy, from Gympie, Queensland, is a young Cymbidium enthusiast, very dedicated to the Australian native cymbidiums, but also in the development of heat tolerant cymbidiums.

Justin has been seriously photographing Australian orchids in the wild for 5 years and has a fabulous knowledge of the 3 native cymbidiums in particular. He has suave and madidum growing wild on his property, and caniculatum, grows wild only half an hours drive away.

Justin will present a talk about the Australian native cymbidiums at the November meeting. It will be similar to the talk which he presented at the American Cymbidium Society's Congress, in Santa Barbara, USA, in February this year. It was a great presentation, very well received, and backed up with lots of high quality photographs.

Justin will have for sale **a few**, selected, superior clones of caniculatum and hopefully madidum for sale. Don't miss this rare opportunity to purchase some of these hard to acquire plants.

Of very special interest will be the opportunity to see for the first time, photos of a suave plant which is a very dark form. The buds are black at this stage. They should open before Justin departs for our meeting, so we may see for the first time a very rare and interesting new variety.

**Don't miss this meeting.** Our Australian native cymbidiums are starting to be used sparingly, in hybridizing, by some very influential breeders. They are producing some very special results. More are in the pipeline.

## NOTICE BOARD

### BASKET SUPPER—NOVEMBER MEETING

*Last year we had a basket supper at our November meeting as our end of year function.*

*This proved to be very successful and popular.*

*We will be doing the same at our last meeting for 2008 so please bring a plate along. Justin Priddy from Queensland will be our speaker so it should be a good meeting all round.*

*Join us to celebrate another successful year at COCSA.*

### COFFEE MUGS / PENS

*Coffee mugs and Adler Pens are now available at club meetings.*

*Mugs: \$7.50 each—Pens : \$5.50 each.*

### WANTED

*Wanted: a second hand shade house approximately 4 x 3 metres or a club member to manufacture one.*

*Please contact: Tessa Bousseton—8340 1390*

*For more items for the wanted section—*

*Please contact: Peter Hall—[pejeh@optusnet.com.au](mailto: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 Andrew Nowakowski  
(cheques to be made out to COCSA)**

**We have commenced taking orders for the second pallet.**

**Please Note: all purchases to be picked up from Graham Morris at  
Valley Orchids**



### PRESIDENT'S REPORT November 2008

The year is almost over and what a big year it has been. We have managed to run three very big and excellent shows, with the help of everyone in the club. This year we have increased membership by about fifteen and kept finances stable, despite all the turmoil going on in the world.

I would like to thank all those people who contributed to making the club what it is by volunteering to pick ups keys, making supper, putting things away and cleaning up after meetings.

One of the most important things in this club is the welcome new members receive and knowledge from Graham Morris in the learners class.

We all know that judges are never right, according to some, but we abide by their decisions, so to Ben Knobben and all the judges thank you for a wonderful job this year. I know you welcome along anybody who would like to learn how to be a judge. Come along and have a go.

It would be remiss of me not to mention just how good this years committee have been in carrying out the running of the club. I'm sure we can all complain about something, but this group of people gave up their time and improved this club immensely.

Next year will see some new speakers and ideas, which we trust, will be of interest to you.

At this stage I would like to wish everyone a happy, prosperous and safe festive season.

**Ray Brady—President**

## CLUB SUBS

During the year I received a couple of telephone calls on the cost of joining our club. When I inform people that it cost \$50.00 there is more often than not a pause, so I tell them that it includes a partner. Sometimes the reply is 'I don't have a partner so can I pay \$25.00'?

I wonder how many members realise what we get for our \$50.00.

We get a special deal with the *Australian Orchid Review (AOR)*. The club pays \$40.00 a head per member. An annual capitation fee to the *Australian Cymbidium Society (ACS)* - the national body of \$6.00 per head. Member's name badges are also included in members subs.

The club pays \$1,000.00 for venue hire to the Burnside council. \$1,200.00 for our public liability insurance. In actual fact, the \$50.00 fee does not cover our running costs which is why it is so important to support our club raffles, the winter and spring shows. This is where we get most of our revenue from to help pay for speakers, produce our own club magazine and pay for all the little extras we enjoy.

Don't forget to pay your subs for 2009 ensuring you continue to receive the *AOR* as well as the *New Cymbidium News*.

Payment form included in this mail out.

---

## COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Included in the mail-out of this edition of the *New Cymbidium News* is a committee nomination form.

If you are interested or know of anyone you believe may be interested and an asset to the committee, please fill in the form and bring to the next club meeting if possible or to the AGM in February 2009.

True, the committee is a lot of work but participating is very rewarding and a lot of fun!

*Come on—give it a go!*

---

## FOGGERS

The foggers that members ordered at the last club meeting will be available at the next meeting on 21 November 2008. Please bring along your moolah as the club has already paid for them on your behalf.

---

## NEUTROG ORDERS

All Neutrog products that have been ordered by members will be available from Friday 21 November 2008 at Valley Orchids. Where possible, members are asked to pick up the product from Graham. Those that are

- You still don't get why the 'Labor' in 'Australian Labor Party' is not spelt with a 'u'
- You wear ugh boots outside the house
- You believe that the more you shorten someone's name the more you like them
- Whatever your linguistic skills, you find yourself able to order takeaway fluently in every Asian language
- You understand that 'excuse me' can sound rude, while 'scuse me' is always polite
- You know what it's like to swallow a fly, on occasion via your nose
- You understand that 'you' has a plural and that it's 'youse'
- You know it's not summer until the steering wheel is too hot to handle
- You biggest family argument over the summer concerned the rules of beach cricket
- You shake your head in horror when companies try to market what they call 'Anzac cookies'
- You still think of Kylie as 'that girl off Neighbours'
- When returning home from overseas, you expect to be brutally strip-searched by Customs - just in case you're trying to sneak in fruit
- You believe the phrase 'smart casual' refers to a pair of black tracky-daks, suitably laundered
- You understand that all train timetables are works of fiction
- When working at a bar, you understand male customers will feel the need to offer an excuse whenever they order low-alcohol beer
- You get choked up with emotion by the first verse of the national anthem and then have trouble remembering the second
- You find yourself ignorant of nearly all the facts deemed essential in the government's new test for migrants.
- You will immediately send this list to any other Australian, here and overseas, realising that only they will understand!!



## FUNNIES FROM DENISE BRADY

### You know you're Australian if...

- You know the meaning of 'girt'
- You believe that stubbies can either be worn or drunk
- You think it is normal to have a Prime Minister called Kevin
- You waddle when you walk due to the 53 expired petrol discount vouchers stuffed in your wallet or purse
- You've made a bong out of your garden hose rather than use it for something illegal such as watering the garden
- When you hear that an American 'roots for his team' you wonder how often and with whom
- You understand that the phrase 'a group of women wearing black thongs' refers to footwear and may be less alluring than it sounds
- You pronounce Melbourne as 'Mel-bin'
- You pronounce Penrith as 'Pen-riff'
- You believe the 'L' in the word 'Australia' is optional
- You can translate: 'Dazza and Shazza played Acca Dacca on the way to Maccas'
- You believe it makes perfect sense for a nation to decorate its highways with large fibreglass bananas, prawns and sheep
- You call your best friend 'a total bastard' but someone you really, truly despise is just 'a bit of a bastard'
- You think 'Woolloomooloo' is a perfectly reasonable name for a place  
You believe it makes sense for a country to have a \$1 coin that's twice as big as its \$2 coin
- You understand that 'Wagga Wagga' can be abbreviated to 'Wagga' but 'Woy Woy' can't be called 'Woy'
- You believe that cooked-down axle grease makes a good breakfast spread
- You believe all famous Kiwis are actually Australian, until they stuff up, at which point they again become Kiwis
- You know, whatever the tourist books say, that no one says 'cobber'
- You know that certain words must, by law, be shouted out during any rendition of the Angels' song 'Am I Ever Gonna See Your Face Again'
- You believe, as an article of faith, that the confectionary known as the Wagon Wheel has become smaller with every passing year

unable to do so, please ring Graham and he will bring to the club meeting on Wednesday 26 November 2008. Only those members who have made prior arrangements with Graham will receive their product on the night. We're very lucky to have Graham and his generous support. It's certainly unfair to ask him to bring all the product because if members don't turn up, he has to take it home with him again. A lot of unnecessary work on his part—not to mention the smell!

---

### FINAL CLUB MEETING

There will be no pots, stakes *etc* for sale at the last club meeting for the year. Des and Hazel Alsop will not be at the meeting and as we are planning a very full evening, with our guest speaker, Justin Priddy, basket supper and we're hoping a *SURPRISE* visit from Father Christmas we won't have the time or space to sell these items.

---

### PLANTS AVAILABLE FROM JUSTIN PRIDDY

Justin Priddy will be bringing plants to Adelaide for sale at our club meeting on Wednesday 26 November. \$35 for 5 or 6' pots and bit more for 7' pot. They are good size plants, very rare and top quality. Please check out Graham's introduction to Justin Priddy at the back of this magazine under the program information.

---

### CYMBIDIUMS TO GIVE AWAY

My cousins, Don and Aileen Pitman who are long time members of our club have decided to give away their collection due to ill health.

Don and Aileen have been growing cymbidiums for approximately 20 years and have a collection of 10,000. Phew! If anyone is interested please contact me.

Peter Hall—[pejeh@optusnet.com.au](mailto:pejeh@optusnet.com.au) or 8294 5562 or 0416 179029.

---

### APOLOGY

Apologies to Sandra and John Nicholls. In the National Show results printout there were two errors.

- Class No 31—Novelty—First Prize—Rincon x Cottontail—S&J Nicholls
- Champion Species—erythraeum—S&J Nicholls

This information is correct on the database but unfortunately the wrong printout was included in the *National Show Report*. All official parties have now been notified.

## LIME, CALCIUM AND pH

When pH, lime and calcium are discussed at orchid meetings, there is often considerable confusion about the different terms and effects. Hopefully this article will explain the differences and remove some of the confusion.

pH is a measure of the acidity of a liquid. It is in fact measure of the number of hydrogen ions in the solution. A neutral solution has a pH of 7, while an alkaline solution has a pH greater than 7 and an acidic solution has a pH less than 7. Each change of 1 in a pH number results in a change of 10 in the number of hydrogen ions in the liquid. Thus a change from pH 7 to pH 5 means that the number of hydrogen ions in the solution has increased 100-fold. In other words, the solution has become 100 times more acidic.

Lime. The term *lime* is often used for a number of products that are actually quite different. Lime comes from limestone rock, which is basically calcium carbonate ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ), its most common impurity being magnesium carbonate ( $\text{MgCO}_3$ ). No purification is done so the exact composition depends on what hill the limestone is dug from. If the limestone is crushed and bagged it is then sold as *Garden Lime*. If it contains a significant amount of magnesium carbonate, then it is sold as *Dolomite Lime*. Calcium carbonate is a stable, relatively insoluble chemical until added to an acidic solution, when the calcium carbonate dissolves and carbon dioxide gas is released; the calcium carbonate only stops reacting with the solution when it has become neutral (pH 7). Hence adding Dolomite Lime to a potting mix will counteract any acidity and will continue to react to maintain neutrality (pH 7) until it is washed out or consumed (much less likely).

The first step in processing limestone is to crush it and heat it. This produces calcium oxide ( $\text{CaO}$ ), a highly alkaline product sold as *Lime*. I would never use this product as it is dangerous to handle and quite likely to damage plants because of its high alkalinity. It will increase the pH of a potting mix but may make it far too alkaline for safe use on orchids.

A further step is to add water to the *Lime* to produce *Hydrated Lime* or *Slaked Lime*. This is basically calcium hydroxide ( $\text{Ca(OH)}_2$ ) and is an alkaline solid that is slightly soluble in water. It is not as strongly alkaline as *Lime* and I know some growers use it. However, it can produce a pH much higher than 7 if added in too large an amount. Both Lime and Hydrated Lime will dissolve in water and over time react with carbon dioxide (a trace component of air) to produce calcium carbonate, particularly when in contact with water. On the basis of the above discussion, if you wish to add lime I would personally choose *Dolomite Lime*, as it can cause little damage and will react only if the potting mix is acidic.

## JUDGES CHOICE—BEST IN OPEN DIVISION

### **Mad Magic 'Amber'**

*grown by: Helmuth Gerber*

This is a reliable flowerer for this time of the year. This showing is a large, well grown plant carrying 6 spikes of up to 20+ flowers. Each flower displays a good shape—brown in colour with spotted sepals and petals. Lip shows its madidum parentage with a maroon centre and yellow edge.



## JUDGES CHOICE—BEST IN FIRST DIVISION

### **304 South Coast 'Cherry Blossom'**

*grown by: Rodney and Lesley Philp*

1 spike, 15 pink flowers, 3 green bulbs, 5 back bulbs in an 8 inch pot. Well grown—nice clean leaves. Grown in bark and perlite with 1 strong new growth.



## PLANT WRITE UP OCTOBER 2008

JUDGES CHOICE—BEST OVERALL—BEST IN SECOND  
DIVISION

**Sweet Devon '1103'**

*grown by: John Moon*

Grown in an 8 inch pot with 19 well displayed spikes carrying an average of 35 flowers. Very clean, healthy plant with plenty of new growth.



As you can see lime is a source of calcium. However, if you read the information provided on some bags of Dolomite Lime, you will see that it provides calcium only to acid potting mixes – it provides no calcium if the mix is neutral or alkaline. Lime and Hydrated Lime may add more calcium but only by making the mix very alkaline, which would damage the plants.

Calcium nitrate is another source of calcium for plants that is often used. Most calcium salts are fairly insoluble so when adding calcium nitrate I would expect a large amount of the calcium could end up as insoluble material not available to the plant. Certainly the nitrate will supply a good level of nitrogen, which is beneficial. It's a highly desirable additive, as it provides nitrogen without simultaneously increasing the amount of potassium or sodium present.

I am (and this may surprise some people) basically a lazy person. I plan to add lime to my plants but often forget, so I have looked for another method of controlling pH and adding small amounts of calcium at the same time. I therefore add a small amount of shell grit (*Canunda Shell*) to my potting mix. This is a good source of calcium carbonate which, being fairly coarse, will not wash through the pot when I water. I have often wondered how much is needed so I put my chemistry training to work and did some simple sums. First I assumed a 250 mm pot (10 in) would hold about 1 litre of water – the rest being solids, plant and air. If the pH was 4 and I wanted to reduce it to 7 then I would need to neutralize 0.0001 grams of hydrogen ion. To do this I would need approximately 0.02 grams of calcium carbonate, a very small amount. It is important for the dolomite lime (or in my case Canunda shell) to be spread evenly throughout the potting mix. More dolomite lime or Canunda shell will be needed to counteract further acidity that develops as the potting mix ages, but the amount required will still be so small as to be almost unnoticeable.

In conclusion, to grow orchids well you need to keep your potting mix neutral (pH 7). This is readily and safely achieved by adding Dolomite Lime to the potting mix. Other forms of Lime have the potential to damage plants, although some growers have used Hydrated Lime. Another method is to add shell grit (Canunda shell) or marble chips to the mix. These materials avoid the need to replace lime as it washes through the pot during watering. The major benefit of calcium treatment is the neutralisation of acidity that develops as pine bark ages, or is introduced by the use of fertilisers. I hope that my article has explained the various factors that so often become confused and scrambled at orchid meetings.

**Written by:**  
**Steven Early**

## THE PURE SARAH 'CASCADE' STORY



Many Cymbidium Orchid Club members will know that Pure Sarah 'Cascade' was the Grand Champion of this year's Winter Show, at Munno Para. Following is some information that I hope the readers of this magazine find interesting and even helpful.

Pure Sarah comes from the hybridising of the very famous miniature cascading plant Sarah Jean and the less well

known Pure Destiny. The original crossing was done in 1985, using Pure Sarah 'Snow' and Pure Destiny 'Delight'. I have only ever seen Sarah Jean 'Snow' once, and consider it not nearly as good as Sarah Jean 'Ice Cascade'. SJ 'Snow', when I saw it was an off white, cascading miniature, when it won a significant prize for Vic Haskard, at Munno Para, some 4 or 5 years ago. I have not seen it since. I suspect if others thought it worthy, we would see a lot more of it. It is almost certainly a diploid. I have never seen Pure Destiny 'Delight', and it is no longer in the Valley Orchids collection. The only other Pure Destiny clone which I know about, is Pure Destiny 'Ultimate', which is a lovely small standard size, pure colour white, which emerges from bud with an ice green colouration, but fades quickly to be a top quality pure colour white. PD 'Ultimate' is a tetraploid. I can only assume that Pure Destiny 'Delight', was similarly, a pure colour white, small standard, tetraploid.

The original crossing, known at Valley Orchids as crossing 8508, produced many, top quality, pure colour white intermediates. The crossing was almost certainly a triploid mating. We grow two varieties today, Pure Sarah 'Starburst' and 'Snow White'. We also have a number of other good varieties, known just as No.1, No.2 etc, but not good enough to clone and grow in significant numbers. All are pure colour white intermediates.

Pure Sarah 'Starburst' is an excellent showbench and commercial orchid. It has much better shape than all the other original Pure Sarah's, and has won many showbench prizes, including Grand Champion at shows in Sydney. It is a little larger than most of the other Pure Sarah varieties. It has a fault, in that the flower spikes can be a little short and weak, but it responds easily, to stretching using elastic, or a yo-yo. It is fast growing and very free flowering. I believe it is a tetraploid (from triploid breeding). It breeds readily and we have just started flowering some really good, new, pure colour intermediates from it. We will certainly use it more in future.

Pure Sarah 'Snow White', lacks the round shape, but has an upright spike habit, and is best used as a pot plant. We grow large numbers of it.

In the mid 1990's, the Pure Sarah crossing was repeated, by Brenton McGee,

.../cont

### OPEN DIVISION

|                              |                                |                         |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Miniature Yellow First Prize | Sunshine Falls 'Butterball'    | Elmore and Pamela Leske |
| Miniature Green First Prize  | Sunshine Falls 'Green Fantasy' | Helmuth Gerber          |
| Miniature Brown First Prize  | Mad Magic 'Amber'              | Helmuth Gerber          |

### FIRST DIVISION

|                                 |                              |                         |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Large Standard Pink First Prize | Dutchman's Delight x Rumours | Silvester Ng            |
| Small Standard Pink First Prize | Southcoast 'Cherry Blossom'  | Rodney and Lesley Philp |
| Miniature Green First Prize     | Daddy's Girl                 | Alan Beck               |
| Miniature Brown First Prize     | Street Tango                 | Alan Beck               |

### SECOND DIVISION

|                                 |                          |                     |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Small Standard Pink First Prize | Gurrana 'Allison'        | Des and Hazel Alsop |
| Intermediate Green First Prize  | Sanderge x canaliculatum | Des and Hazel Alsop |
| Miniature Green First Prize     | Miss Muffet 'Sweetie'    | Andrew Koch         |
| Miniature Brown First Prize     | Sweet Devon '1103'       | John Moon           |

## Monthly Competition Results For 22 October 2008

### POPULAR VOTE

|              |                              |                          |
|--------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Best Species | Lowianum 'Compte De Heptine' | John and Sandra Nicholls |
|--------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|

### JUDGES CHOICE

|                              |                              |                         |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Best Overall                 | Sweet Devon '1103'           | John Moon               |
| Best in Open Division        | Mad Magic 'Amber'            | Helmuth Gerber          |
| Best in First Division       | South Coast 'Cherry Blossom' | Rodney and Lesley Philp |
| Best in Second Division      | Sweet Devon '1103'           | John Moon               |
| Best Large Standard Seedling | Dutchman's Delight x Rumours | Silvester Ng            |
| Best Specimen                | Sweet Devon '1103'           | John Moon               |

### OPEN DIVISION

|                               |                        |                |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Intermediate Pink First Prize | Night Time 'Caberet    | Helmuth Gerber |
| Intermediate Red First Prize  | Night Time 'Port Wine' | Helmuth Gerber |

from Pioneer Orchids, located just outside Geelong, in Victoria. Brenton is Bob Nocole's (previous Valley Orchids owner) nephew. He repeated the Pure Sarah mating, using quite different parent to previously. Pure Sarah 'Frosty' (a tetraploid conversion of Ice Cascade), and Pure Destiny 'Ultimate' (previously described). This mating was a tetraploid combination.

At Valley Orchids, we flowered hundreds of them. They generally flowered on very small plants and most were remarkably similar. They were generally a little larger, than most of the 8508 crossing (except for PS 'Starburst'). Pioneer Orchids, also flowered hundreds of them, with similar results to ours. Brenton has grown many into specimen plants. He puts on a spectacular display each year, when he displays a dozen or so, similar to PS Cascade, at his nursery.

Our best clone is Pure Sarah 'Carolyn', which we have only shown once. It is a fabulous ice green intermediate, which fades to pure white, within a week of opening. Pure Sarah 'Cascade' is good, but not as good as Carolyn. Pure Sarah 'Cascade' has not been cloned yet, but will be, as soon as a new lead becomes available on the plant.

This year PS 'Cascade' flowered with 11 or 12 flower spikes. We pretty much left them to cascade, on their own, with just an occasional small assistance, to even the spikes out around the pot. The flowers opened with an ice green colouration, but faded within a week or so, to pure white. We staked the flower spikes, only on the morning of the show, just to protect them in transit. It was a very difficult job to get the pot into the van, with minimal damage to the flowers. Unfortunately some flower spikes still broke in transit. It went on to win Grand Champion of the Winter Show.

I was hoping to keep it in good condition, to be able to show it at the National Show at Noarlunga. Pure colour orchids can hold in excellent condition for many months, and PS 'Cascade', holds up for over 3 months. Even flowers with damaged pollen caps, don't collapse, as do normal coloured orchids which are damaged. Unfortunately it was knocked about a little at the show, and on the way home. The final blow came on the Wednesday after the show take out. It was a monthly meeting night, so I thought I might as well take it to the meeting and show it off a bit. In carrying it to the van, on Wednesday evening, I tripped over an obstacle, and fell on top of it (clumsy). There was almost no undamaged flower spikes. With hurt pride, I thought it best to leave it at home. I did chuckle a bit. Under the rules of showing, a plant damaged in transit, should be judged as if it were not damaged. All damaged flowers must be retained, and the registrar of judges informed. **I could still have shown it.** It would have been a huge challenge for the judges, and I thought it not fair to test them in such a way.

Hopefully it can be even better next year, but I also know, someone else will probably have something even better. That is progress!

**Graham Morris—November 2008**

## **PAULINE'S LABORATORY SERVICE**

FOR ALL ASPECT OF CYMBIDIUM  
TISSUE CULTURE

CONTACT PAULINE OR KEV McLEAN

PHONE... (08) 8386 0430

POSTAL ADDRESS... 13 WENTWORTH ST.  
MOANA  
S.A. 5169

EMAIL.... [pkmclean@arcom.com.au](mailto:pkmclean@arcom.com.au)

**Valley Orchids Lot 8 Wheaton  
Road McLaren Vale South Australia**  
Phone 08 8327 3955 Fax 08 8327 3966  
Mobile 0419 823 724

**\*\* New Postal Address \*\***

P.O. Box 143, McLaren Vale, Sth. Aust 5171  
**Open by appointment and Saturday morning  
during flowering season**

**Lots of new releases and seedlings now available**

Including mericlones of National Show Champion 2004 -

**Valley Olympic 'Pink Perfection'**

Email – [graham@valleyorchids.com.au](mailto:graham@valleyorchids.com.au)

Homepage – [valleyorchids.com.au](http://valleyorchids.com.au)

## **Tom Burian Orchids**

**RSD 87 Lot 25 Heinjus Road  
STRATHALBYN 5255**

**NURSERY OPEN WEEKENDS ALL  
YEAR ROUND**

**OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT  
ONLY.**

**LOTS OF NEW RELEASES**

**CONTACT TOM BURIAN  
ON 0412 391 989**

**FOR FURTHER DETAILS.**