CYMBIDIUM NEWS

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Winter Show 2022 Grand Champion Champion Open Division Champion Seedling

Prized x Oriental Magic Now named Amigos Magic "Blood Orange"

Grown by Chee Ng





Winter Show 2022 Second Division Champion Valley Bay x Hamsey Grown by David Fletcher



Winter Show 2022 Champion Large Standard Dural Dream x Valley Vapour Grown by Shane Moeller



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Winter Show Grand Champion

Ray Brady, Moss Bray, John and Yvonne Longbottom,
Graham Morris, Dean Roesler #, Jeanne Hall #, Wayne Baylis,
Ben Knobben # Brian & Shirley Brand, Barry Bailey, Peter Aigner Muehler

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indicates Deceased

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President Graham Fear

Presidents Message July 2022

Welcome to our July issue,

Good to see more plants at the June meeting. Best in open division and plant of the night was Amber Dawn x Pure Amber, grown by Chee Ng. First division was won by myself (Graham Fear) with Dural Pepper x Lunar Blaze. Second division was won by Mike Gray with a plant which had lost it's label. Seedling of the night was one grown by Chee Ng with a lovely yellow small standard Amber Dawn x Pure Amber. The Winter Show was held this week at Munno Para shopping Centre. Some fantastic plants were shown in Open division, very few in first division and even less in Second division, which was disappointing but well done to those that showed their plants in those two divisions. Congratulations to Chee Ng our registrar for the Grand Champion with Amigos Magic "Blood Orange" and winner of Open Division, First division was won by Peter Haltis with Marilyn Levi "Wedding Buttons". Sec-

ond Division was won by David Fletcher with Valley Bay x Hamsey.

Well done to all the other winners considering the difficulty in getting plants to open this year. It was a great result especially in Open Division.

Shortage of plants looked like it was going to be a problem with the Trading Table after the first day, with 80 plus plants sold, but Friday and Saturday turned out to be a shocker with only 40 odd plants sold in the two days, and for the first time in many years there were more than 30 plants left on Saturday evening when we packed up. Thanks to all the members who supplied plants

Many thanks to everybody that helped on the Wednesday night in judging, erecting the display and trading table. Special thanks to John Howard our Show Marshall, who despite an illness, was there to help on three days and nights and Craig for manning the cash desk, and everybody else that worked on the trading table over the three days. Well done to you all.

Port Adelaide is our next show, with put in on Wednesday 3rd August and running through to Saturday 6th August. No judging but we will need plants for the display and the Trading Table, and helpers on the Wednesday night and over the next three days to man the trading Table, and then West Lakes from Saturday 27th Aug to Saturday 3rd Sept.

Some great crosses from John Gates were shown at the June meeting, all of which will be available from Moss at a special club member price of \$30 a flask. Don't forget to put your order in with Moss. Many thanks to John Gate for providing us with the photos and allowing us to show off his setup and crossings

Also, the giant flask from Moss with 100 plants in it will be actioned at the July meeting. Details are in this issue so save up your dollars or go halves with somebody as it is a high quality cross to have.

Don't forget the single flower competition for all divisions which will be judged by popular vote at future meetings. Bring along a single flower and place it at the front of the hall in the racks along with your show number.

Our guest speaker for the July meeting will be Kevin Western with a very interesting presentation on tissue culture and how he can treat flasks to change the ploidy of plants in flask. The giant flask of plants shown on page 8 will be auctioned during the meeting.

I look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday, 22^{nd} June

Kind Regards and stay safe and well, especially with the virus continuing to surge. It may pay to wear a mask if you feel comfortable doing so at the meeting.

Graham Fear President

Kevin Western - Western Orchids / Laboratories

1982-84 my father and I bought a back bulb of Cymbidium Ramley. In 2 years it had grown well and flowered with 2 spikes of 23 & 32 flowers per spike - most impressed.

More Cyms were constantly added to the collection, then in 1970 at the OCSA Spring Show held at John Martins, Adelaide he came upon a demonstration of Cymbidium clone tissue on a rotator at the fair. At the same time Kevin was undertaking instruction in the preparation of sterile pharmaceuticals as Pharmacy graduate in training, at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital at Woodville. One look at Cymbidiums in tissue culture and he was hooked.

Within 4 months Kevin had sown Cymbidium dry seed, a seed pod and had cloned a cymbidium.

His first commercial foray was to sow cymbidium green pods for Ross Gowling, the originator of early flowering Cymbidiums in Adelaide for cut flower and show bench use. The operation was carried out in a plastic sterile tent constructed from coat hanger wire and glad wrap on the kitchen table.

The year 1974 saw Kevin move to a house in Coromandel Valley designed with a Tissue Culture room included in the plan, and a Laminar AirFlow cabinet was bought for ease of sterile operations. In 1992 it was realized that Kevin's Tissue Culture media formulae worked as well as, if not far better than commercially available products, so he decided to market the media products locally and globally, with considerable success.

In 1996 a 1 acre block at Coromandel East was purchased, and a large shed constructed on it and fitted out for tissue culture. A large area was also put under shade cloth to house orchid breeders and orchid favourites, and the upscaled Tissue Culture lab provided vastly more space and convenience of operation. A residence, designed entirely by his wife, Helen, was also built on the property, and completed by December 2000. In August 2010, Kevin retired as specialist compounding Pharmacist and concentrated more broadly on the orchid flasking, by now well experienced with Australian and overseas terrestrial orchids, as well as the more common range of epiphytes.

In 2005 Kevin attended the World Orchid Conference in Dijon, France. There he sold 2 pallet loads of flasks in 4 days and saw the amazing opportunity that the European population offered at such sales events. In this case where 33,000 people attended the venue over 10 days. Many of the flasks were Australian species and their hybrids as well as a range of exotic species, and Disas. Since then he has travelled to New Zealand on numerous occasions taking a pallet load of flasks to sell on each occasion. Nowadays Kevin maintains a collection of around 8,000 flasks comprised of seedlings and clones of cool to cold growing, mainly epiphytes but some terrestrials of commonly maintained Australian Dendrobiums and Sarcochilus and Australian Cymbidiums, and their hybrids, but also Disa, exotic species including Paphiopedilum, Phragmipedium, Oncidium alliance, Cattleya alliance, Zygopetalinae and many others. (Continued on Page 6)

Continued from page 5

His laboratory sows dry seed and green pod seed and conducts cloning operations for himself, hobbyists and commercial growers and he still sells dry powder tissue culture medium locally and globally.

He continues also to contribute to orchid conservation generally by provision of line-bred species both common and endangered in the hope that making fine specimens available ex flask that pillaging of orchids from the wild will be lessened.

During his now 52 years active in the world of tissue culture he has learned how to diagnose, solve and avoid a vast array of tissue culture issues, and how to work with maximum efficiency. He conducts two day tissue culture courses for both novices and for individuals who wish to raise their competence at commercial tissue culture activities.

A breeding problem from years back

This is a small extract from the national magazine Australian Cymbidium Scene, spring edition 2017

The article was titled "Khan Flame - A Great Aussie Creation'

(But first, an explanation regarding what makes a diploid, triploid and tetraploid cymbidium. A diploid cymbidium generally has 40 chromosones in their genetic structure. Most species cymbidiums were diploids. They were generally very starry in shape, and the texture (thickness) of the petals was poor. Early in the 1900's, growers started hybridizing the species plants, and occasionally one or two had much better shape and texture than the parent plants. It was not known initially, but these improved form flowers, had their doubled their chromosome count to 80 chromosones during the hybridising process. The growers of that time knew little about chromosome numbers in cymbidiums in cultivation. Later they were called tetraploids. Because they were better than the majority of plants in cultivation at the time, they were included in hybridizing programs. These new tetraploids were bred with the old plants (diploids), and most of the progeny produced had better shape and texture than the old diploids, but not as good as these new (tetraploid) plants. These plants had 60 chromosones, and were later titled as triploids. Triploids generally are sterile, while diploids and tetraploids generally are quite fertile.)

The background information by Alvin Bryant.

In the 1950's, the Sanders List of Hybrids was lamenting the fact that the cymbidium hybrids were becoming more sterile. At the same time a woman scientist, Mrs Messenger, of Greenoaks Orchids, was publishing an article stating that the reason for the incressing sterility, was the presence of chance tetralpoids. These were being used as parents because of superior characteristics, but when used with ordinary (diploid) parents, the triploid progeny were usually sterile. In 1957 I started exporting (flowers), and quickly found that many of the normal varieties of cymbidiums (diploid flowers) would collapse when faced with the hot American summer. However tetraploids and triploids generally did very well. This started a search for tetraploid parents to develop more suitable

exporting stock, with attention being given to varieties which could spread the flowering time.

The development of tetraploids had already begun in America, and I was able to purchase stock bred from the early flowering tetraploid, Early Bird "Pacific". Seedlings were obtained of the Winter Fair cross from Stewarts, some flowering Stanley Fourakers from Paul Gripp, and flasks of White Christmas, Polomar and Palaker crosses from Mrs Messenger. Work had also been done on converting diploid cymbidiums, to tetraploids and a converted plant of Fanfare "St Francis" was also imported. This was to give power and strength to the crosses based around Early Bird "Pacific"

Another key event happened also. Donald Wimber, an outstanding researcher in America, published an article detailing how the ploidy of a cymbidium could be determined by simple leaf stomatal measurement, instead of chromosome counting.

This enabled existing cymbidiums to be examined to identify those that were tetraploid or triploid. This enabled hybridisers to make crosses which would be known to breed, instead of stumbling over infertility blocks.

The background work then enabled crosses such as the Alvin Bryant (White Christmas x Fanfare) and Winter Wonder (Winter Fair x Fanfare) to be made. A selected form of one of the Alvin Bryant seedlings (Regal) was used for the next step by crossing it with the identified tetraploid Luningrad "Elanora" to make the Cronulla cross. One variety, "The Khan" bought together a truly magnificent pool of genetic material (which can be described separately another time) as evidenced by it's role in future breeding. (end of the extract from Australian Cymbidium Scene)

I have included this small article here as an introduction for our guest speaker for the July meeting, Kevin Western. Kevin has done a huge amount of interesting breeding, and has worked extensively in converting plants to a higher ploidy level. The chemical colchicine was applied to small plants in flask, to convert some of them to a higher ploidy (usually from diploid to tetraploid). More recently the chemical oryzalin is being used with better results.

The understanding of the importance of ploidy in our plants is a subject many (even long time and experienced growers) have difficulty with. Kevin will discuss ploidy in his talk, in a simple and easy to understand style. **Don't miss this meeting.**

Perhaps later it might be possible to expand on how it has affected our new generations cymbidiums. Khan Flame particularly has been huge in modern breeding, and many of the showbench winners today have Khan Flame in their background.

The Cymbidium Club of Australia Inc. (NSW Club)
Will hold it's 2022 National Orchid Extraviganza
on Friday 12th to Sunday 14th August
at the Arena Sports Club, 140 Rockwood Road, Yagoona, NSW
9am to 4pm on Friday and Saturday, 9am to 3pm on Sunday



At the July meeting, the jumbo flask at left will be auctioned.

It has approximately 100 very robust and fast growing seedlings, which will be ready to deflask at that time.

John Gates, the master hybridizer of this flask, describes as a "good cross", an obvious gross understatement.

It should produce many absolutely top quality red seedlings.

Thank you to Moss and Rosemary Bray for producing and donating this flask.

All proceeds raised will go to the club.

Save your dollars and cents for this one, and don't miss the July meeting to bid on this special flask.

See this in full colour in the June magazine Or in the electronic version sent to you by email

(Flaming Vulcan x Arcadian Ruby) 'Big Red'



Regal Flames 'Queen of Hearts'







Winter Show 2022 Champion Intermediate Nat's Pride "Crimson Queen" Grown by John Moon

Winter Show 2022 Gypsy Rose "Princess"

Champion Miniature Grown by Shane Moeller









Winter Show 2022 Champion Specimen Pharaoh's Dream "Dural" Grown by John Moon



Winter Show 2022 Best in Show Large Standard Seedling

Amber Dawn x Pure Amber Grown by Chee Ng













Winter Show 2022

Best Large Standard

tracyanum "Tambourine"

Grown by
Peter Haltis









June Meeting 2022

Judge's Choice Best overall, Best in Open Division, Best Small Standard Seedling

Amber Dawn x Pure Amber

Grown by Chee Ng

June Meeting 2022 Judge's Choice Best Large Standard Seedling Memoria Hugo Kutil Grown by Chee Ng





.The next Meetings of the **Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Inc.**

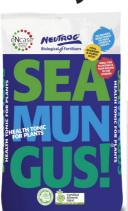
On Wednesday 27th July 2022, starting at 8.00pm Beginners meet on the stage at front of hall from 7.15pm

Bring any cymbidiums in flower for judging, including single flowers

Kevin Western, the proprietor of Western Orchid Laboratories will talk about his experiences with tissue culture (production of small plants in sterile containers)

Read about his experiences and what he does on page 5 of this magazine. He will include aspects of conversion of diploid plants, to tetraploid, and what it means for the industry. This talk should not be missed





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Kahoona

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Whoflungdung

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Strike Back for Orchids Ideal for the all potted

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1L Concentrate \$10 2L Concentrate \$15

2L Ready to Use \$10





1L bottle \$10

Strike Back for Orchids Liquid

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MC

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NSW



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The Cymbidium Orchid Society of Victoria Inc



Saturday 10th Sept 9.00am - 4.00pm Sunday 11th Sept 9.00am - 3.00pm Venue: Mt. Waverley Community Centre Miller Crescent, Mt. Waverley Admission: \$5.00 (children free)

Come and enjoy the wonderful world of the Cymbidium Orchid, chat with other orchid enthusiasts or simply wander through the beautiful displays and sales area.

Enquires: Terry Poulton

0438635725



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40ml of GOGO Juice Advanced Biological Formula

10 litres of Water

METHOD

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Fill with 10 litres of water.

Slosh about to dilute well.

Pour over soil, lawn or pots for a refreshing summer drink for your garden.



^{*}Disclaimer, GOGO Juice Advanced Biological Formula is a probiotic for your garden, it should not be drunk.

03834

Rats and mice are active in our gardens at the moment. First Strike Rodenticide is very effective in controlling these pests.

Available from Graham Morris 0419 823 724. Call if you need some.

Packs of 10 baits \$5.00, Packs of 25 \$10.00

This new product is getting good reviews from growers everywhere who have been using it for some time. Rodents cause lots of damage if not controlled. Be prepared. Have some on hand.

Available at the Trading table at the back of the hall, on meeting nights.



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For larger orders 30 pots or under per size, contact Wayne Baylis, on 0409 801 224

Any orders over 30 pots per size should be sourced by the box configuration from Garden City Plastics,

Available to all club members in bulk,

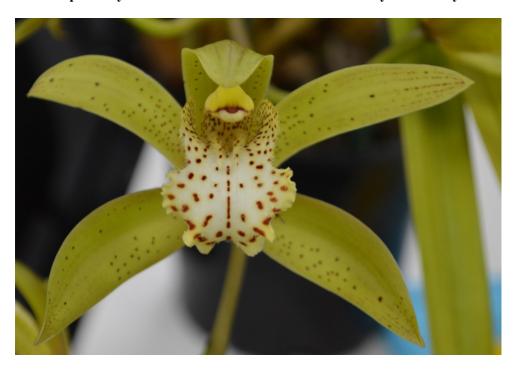
Contact Natasha on 8168 4100 to order.



June Meeting 2022
Open Division
1st Miniature White
Elegant Elf "Nan"
Grown by
Michael Willoughby
And Oui Ju

Species cymbidium

June Meeting 2022
hookerianum
Grown by Mike Gray



Winter Show 2022
First Division Champion

Marilyn Levy
"Wedding Buttons"

Grown by Peter Haltis





