



Cymbidium Club of Australia Inc.

www.ccansw.com.au

Affiliated with the Orchid Society of New South Wales and the Australian Orchid Council

Volume 40 No. 2 | March 2023 | Next meeting: 13 April



Cym. Alexandra's Flame x Flaming Vulcan
(D Mitsios)

MEETING DATES FOR 2023

- 13 April (AGM)
- 11 May
- 8 June
- 13 July
- 10 August - (No meeting - Show)
- 14 September
- 12 October
- 9 November - Christmas



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COMMITTEE:

David Brooks, Bill Goodridge, Seong Tay, Nat Cicciari &
Andy Gatt

PATRON: Kevin Black

EDITOR | WEB: Toni Benton, 0418 263 899



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Meetings are held every second Thursday of the month, March to November inclusive, at the
Allan G Ezy Community Centre, 1 Newport Street, Pemulway NSW commencing at 8.00 pm.

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PRESIDENT'S BLURB

Well it was great to see all the regulars at the Cymbid Club in March. Whilst still a bit early for many flowers hopefully we will get an increased benching starting in April. Please try and bring along cymbidiums you have in flower (or single blooms). Remember they don't have to be perfect show winners for other members to enjoy , talk about etc.

At the March meeting I gave a talk about my usual media and some of the others I've been trialling. Hopefully it was useful and not too confusing.

Unfortunately the recent period of hot weather has come at a bad time for the cymbidiums which are looking stressed and some spikes are aborting. I guess the weather had to get hot sometime... Hopefully we will all still have a good season.

At the April meeting we will be having our Annual General Meeting . New committee members are always welcome and we appreciate any/all feedback.

A very big thank you to Judith Brooks for her dual role as secretary /treasurer which she has carried out so professionally again for another year. A big thank you to David Brooks for assisting Judith with this as well as organising the Extravaganza .

Thank you to all the other committee members -Vice -President George Serhan, Nat Cicciari, Seong Tay , Andy Gatt , and Bill Goodridge .

A very big thank you to Toni Benton who has done a wonderful job as editor of the club's newsletter as well as being our webmaster running the website - <https://ccansw.com.au>

Also thank you to everyone who has helped with the suppers particularly Kay Goodridge , Jessie Gatt and Judith Brooks, and Bill Goodridge for growing on the raffle plants.

At the April meeting we also be having a Guest Speaker - Mr Scott Barrie , from Barrita Orchids.

It's not often we can get a commercial cymbidium grower along for a talk and this talk is not to be missed . Scott will bring some plants for sale which is a great opportunity to add some quality plants to your collection.

For those of you who didn't make it to March meeting I encourage you to get motivated and get out and come along. I look forward to seeing you there .

Geoff

Club Meeting Program for 2023

- 13 April: AGM , Guest Speaker - Scott Barrie proprietor of Barrita Orchids
- 11 May: Dr Seong Tay on Orchid Flasking
- 8 June: Dr Randall Robinson topic TBA
- 13 July: Annual Winter Show
- 10 August : No meeting - National Orchid Extravaganza
- 14 September: Annual Spring Show
- 12 October: Guest Speaker - Mr Steve Dunstan on Cymbidium canaliculatum
- 9 November: End of Year Party and Presentation of Prizes

Geoff's Usual Coco mix for Cymbidiums

As discussed at our March meeting the mix I use generally for cymbidiums in 125mm to 300mm pots is:

1 block tropicool coco "profit" grade

Soak for at least 4 hours in 70 litre garbage bin of tap water , drain , repeat 3 times

Optionally on the last soak add 20mls Peters Excel Cal Mag finisher - mix in water first

Then add 20 litres coarse perlite

1 cup dolomite

Mix thoroughly

When I pot up I add some slow release fertilizer - I use Peters exact hi k 8-9 month

5ml in 125mm pot

10ml in a 175mm pot

15ml in a 200mm pot

20ml in a 250mm pot

As always I recommend a small trial in your growing conditions with your watering and with just a few plants before any massive change is made .

Good growing! Geoff Le Marne

MINUTES OF 9th APRIL, 2023

The meeting opened at 8pm by President, Geoff Le Marne, who welcomed Members and visitors.

Two new Members joined the Club.

A variety of raffle plants are available for the evening draw.

Geoff asked how everyone's plants were going and noted there was always some challenge to the growing season – too hot, too cold, too wet, too dry. George Serhan noted he has had problems with rats eating his plants and new spikes and there was discussion on dealing with rodents around your plants.

Geoff addressed the effort to get guest speakers along to the meetings, which he has been working on. It can be difficult to find specialists in cymbidiums, so any suggestions from Members are welcome. However, we should have Randall Robinson presenting at the June meeting.

April meeting is the AGM, July will be the Winter Show, August the Extravaganza (so no meeting), September will be the Spring Show. In October we are hoping to have Steve Dunstan from the Central Coast speaking on canaliculatum growing and November will be the Christmas Party.

David Brooks spoke on the fabulous flowering of Penny Serenade by Ken and Sharyon Wynn at our October meeting. They were awarded an Award of Merit at the Club last year and were presented with an Award of Merit from the Orchid Society of NSW tonight for the same plant. Both the Cymbidium Club and OSNSW have also awarded the plant an Award of Cultural Excellence.

The meeting broke for supper at 8.30pm and resumed at 8.50pm.

Geoff gave a presentation of different growing media and there was general discussion on that topic, as well as fertilizing regimes.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – APRIL 2023

As to be expected, we did not have a lot of flowering plants at the last meeting, being so early in the season. However, it was great to see a couple of lovely blooms on display from George Serhan. The season can only get better as more and more of our beauties start to come out.

It was great to get a couple of visitors and new members along as well. Please do try to promote the Club and get fellow enthusiasts to join us. Our Club membership has declined over the last few years, as a result of Covid and some of our Members no longer feeling they can make the journey to attend the meetings. We will be working hard through general advertising on the website and Facebook page to promote our group and swell our numbers.

Next meeting will be the AGM and we are assured of an interesting night with Scott Barrie from Barrita Orchids coming along to speak to us about his nursery operation. Scott is a renowned grower and I'm sure his talk will be of benefit to all.

Organisation for this year's National Orchid Extravaganza is underway and we have had the added bonus of being able to advertise the show early at the Royal Easter Show, thanks to OSNSW having a stall there and offering to take some flyers for us. The official flyers should be available for Members at the May meeting. In the meantime, tell your friends to get the dates in the diary – the Show will be on the 11th - 13th August at The Arena Sportsclub at Rookwood (same venue as last year).

Hoping you all have plenty of flower spikes coming on for a great Cymbidium season.

Judith

COVID SAFETY PLANS

Covid-19 continues to circulate in the community with new sub variants arising on a regular basis and further outbreaks occurring. Past infection or immunisation doesn't necessarily protect against new variants. Booster immunisation with a newer vaccine which has action against sub variants is advised by NSW Health for people over 65, and those over 18 at increased risk of serious infection.

Masks are no longer required for our monthly meetings however you should assess your own risk level and wear a mask for your own protection if you decide it's warranted.

Members should be respectful of social distancing and hand sanitiser /masks will be available near the entrance for those who wish to use them.

Please tick the attendance list at the entrance hall - you will be notified if a member develops Covid after a monthly meeting .

Geoff

SHOW BENCH

Intermediate > 61-85mm

1. G Serhan *Cym. Peter Pan x Lustrous*

Miniature > 35-60mm

1. G Serhan **Cym. Kiwi 'Zig Zag'*

* Denotes Champion

POINT SCORE 2023

G Serhan 11



A.G.M. Nomination Form 2023

Election of Office Bearers for the Cymbidium Club of Australia Inc. for the year 2023

We, the undersigned, being financial members of the Cymbidium Club of Australia Inc. hereby nominate.

Name: for the position of:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Editor

Committee

Signed:

I accept the above Nomination

Seconded:

Signed: Judith Brooks, Secretary