

Volume 41 No. 1 | March 2024 | Next meeting: 14th March

The Cymbidium Club of Australia presents the first in a series of presentations to teach you how to:

Grow Your Cymbidiums Better! Presentation 1: Light, Temperature, Humidity and Water

by Geoff Le Marne

March 14th - 8.00 p.m.

Allan G Ezzy Community Centre,

1 Newport St Pemulwuy

Visitors welcome! It's Free!

Learn from expert growers, some of the best in the country. Supercharge your results. Be thrilled at how your cymbidiums grow and flower. Win more prizes at shows and impress your families and friends! Great plant raffle! You'll be so glad you came.....



MANAGEMENT

PRESIDENT: Dr Geoff Le Marne 9449 9648

VICE PRESIDENT: George Serhan

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Nat Cicciari & Andy Gatt

PATRON: Kevin Black

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MEETING DATES FOR 2024

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



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

DISCLAIMER: Whilst all care has been taken in producing this Newsletter the Cymbidium Club of Australia Inc. disclaims all liability for losses and any misadventure which may be attributed to the use of any material contained in this newsletter.

PRESIDENT'S BLURB MARCH 2024

Well, it's time to restart the monthly meetings and I'm really looking forward to the year ahead. My cymbidiums have been growing pretty well, plenty of spikes starting to appear, many on seedling crosses which will be flowering for the first time.

At the November Meeting we had another magnificent festive feast. A big thank you to Judith and David Brooks for procurement of the delicious food and organising the event again. Thank you to every one who helping out in the Kitchen - I didn't keep a list - especially the Kay and Bill Goodridge, Jessie Gatt, Toni Benton, Judith Brooks.

We also had the presentation of prizes for the year. The Annual Points Score Competition was taken out by George Serhan - congratulations - it has been great to look at all the beautiful cymbidiums you have benched through out the year.

The Tay Cymbidium of the Year as well as the Keith Harris Memorial Trophy were both won by Ken and Sharon Wynn for their plant of Coraki Glowing 'Kentlyn' which was shown at the National Orchid Extravaganza at Yagoona. Congratulations Ken and Sharon!

Lastly I received the Seedling of the Year award for my seedling of Marilyn Thomas W. B. X Gwen Thomas 'Sunburst' hybridised by David Wain Orchids.

A very big thank you to David Brooks for all his hard work collating results and organising the judging panel, as well as Seong Tay and Brian Janes for judging.

On a sad note, members who are on the email list would have heard that long term Club member Loui Friess passed away during the break. Our thoughts and condolences are with his wife Erma and his family.

The Committee is putting together an exciting program of presentations this year for the Club Meetings. The focus will be on all things to do with growing and showing cymbidiums better. The first meeting will be on **Grow Your Cymbidiums Better: Light, temperature, humidity and water**. I will be presenting. If you want to understand what conditions Cymbidiums like and how to meet these condition better make sure you come along. Visitors are welcome so if you know of orchid growers who might be interested in growing their cymbidiums better please let them know.

The Club will also be starting growing competition in March. The plants for the comp will be available for purchase and are mericlones of Regal Flames 'Queen of Hearts' AM AOC. This is great orchid, regular show winner, great parent and well worth having in any collection. The plants have been supplied at cost by David Wain Orchids (thanks David) and the price is also subsidised by the Cymbidium Club. Cost will be \$5.00, limit 1 per member, allocated by a number from the hat system. At the end of the growing competition the winner will receive a \$100 prize. Be sure to come along and get your plant!

I look forward to catching up with you all
Geoff Le Marne

SECRETARY'S REPORT MARCH 2024

Welcome back everyone and I do hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. We had a great send off last November with our Christmas Party and annual trophy presentations. Congratulations to George Serhan for the Point Score winner for 2023, to Geoff Le Marne for Seedling of the Year, Ken and Sharyon Wynn for Showbench Plant of the Year, as well as the Keith Harris Trophy for their Grand Champion at the Extravaganza.

What a difficult summer we've had, at least here in Sydney – from one day to the next we've either had pouring rain or sweltering heat. I'm not sure what that will mean for our flowering season, but hopefully you all had enough shade cloth and misters for the hottest days and your plants didn't get too drenched during the wetter ones.

Thank you to all our Members for your continuing support for the Club, helping out at the meetings and with our annual shows. Special thanks for our President, Geoff Le Marne, Vice President, George Serhan and my fellow Committee Members – Seong Tay, Nat Ciccari, Bill Goodridge, Andy Gatt and David Brooks. Your assistance with running the Club and our events is very much appreciated. Thanks also to Toni Benton for all your hard work on the Newsletter and maintaining the website for us.

I look forward to another great year of beautiful cymbidiums and wish everyone success in growing this season.

Judith

Member's Benching Information for 2024 - David Brooks

Monthly meetings begin at 8pm. Plants/ blooms need to be on the bench in their appropriate class 10 minutes before the start of the meeting.

A clearly printed benching label with the correct name of the plant, the class it is to be judged in and the owners name is to be placed with the plant/bloom.

For those members with a computer, a sheet with benching labels for the monthly meetings has been included with the bulletin so you can print and fill out your own, prior to the meeting.

If you are unsure in which class to place your plant, ask one of the judges.

The general benching classes at all meetings (including the Winter and Spring show) will be as follows:

Showbench Competition

Standard (< 100mm)	Ultra Miniature (>35mm)
Small Standard (85-100mm)	Species
Intermediate (60-85mm)	Pendulous (all sizes - Winter and Spring Show only)*
Miniature (35-60mm)	Single Bloom- Std/Small Std/Int./Min.

*At monthly meetings, Pendulous plants are to be benched in the appropriate size class

Seedling Competition

Standard | Intermediate | Small Standard | Miniature | Ultra Miniature

The Committee/ Judging panel may amend this as required.

The **Winter Members' Show** will be held at the July meeting (11/7/24), the **Spring Members' Show** at the September meeting (12/9/24), with the Extravaganza again at the same venue in August (9-11/8/24).

General Rules

1. To **accrue points or receive prizes** from benching at monthly meetings, **members need to be financial** and to record their name and number of blooms/plants benched on the record sheet beside the blooms display.
2. All exhibits, including single blooms, must be owned by the exhibitor for a minimum of six (6) months before benching.
3. **All plants are to be in show condition** (ie. dead leaves, bulb sheaths etc removed) and free from disease, otherwise they **may not** be judged.
4. Blooms must be presented **undamaged/unmarked**. Damaged blooms **may not** be judged.
5. A seedling is a plant shown for the first time and must be the whole undivided plant and can only be accepted up to a pot size of 200 mm.
6. Plants are only eligible to be judged as a seedling during their first season of exhibition.
7. If a single bloom is from a seedling, then entering it in the single bloom competition does not prevent it being entered in the Seedling of the Month/Year competition in subsequent years.
8. All classes will be judged for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.
9. All plants benched will receive 1 point towards the Annual Point Score competition, with no limit on the number of plants an exhibitor can bench each month.
10. Points will be awarded for single blooms towards the Annual Point Score competition at 1 point per bloom, to a maximum of 12 points per exhibitor per month.
11. Members may only exhibit one flower from a particular clone, but may exhibit other flowers from the same grex. (one

PLACE	SHOWBENCH/SEEDLING POINTS	BLOOM POINTS
1	3	1.5
2	2	1
3	1	0.5

flower from each of Dural Dream 'Dural', 'Supreme' and 'Picture' for example).

12. Points will be awarded for Class places as follows:
13. Prize money for places in the Showbench and Seedling classes will be paid at: 1st \$3.00; 2nd \$2.00; 3rd \$1.00. Prize money in the Single Bloom classes will be paid at: 1st \$1.50; 2nd \$1.00; 3rd \$0.50. These prize monies will be cumulative and paid at the end of the year.
14. In addition, the overall Seedling of the Month will receive \$50 at the meeting, **provided there is a minimum of 10 plants across at least three of the seedling classes.**

Vale: Alois (Loui) Friess



It is with much sadness that we were notified of the passing of Loui on Friday 24th November 2023, at the age of 91.

Loui was a long time member and supporter of our club. He regularly benched plants that he meticulously presented, both in monthly meetings and in our annual extravaganza. He always believed that a plant had to be presented 'just right' or not at all. Loui always supported the club's display at the old A.C.S. National show both at home and interstate with flowers or plants or both.

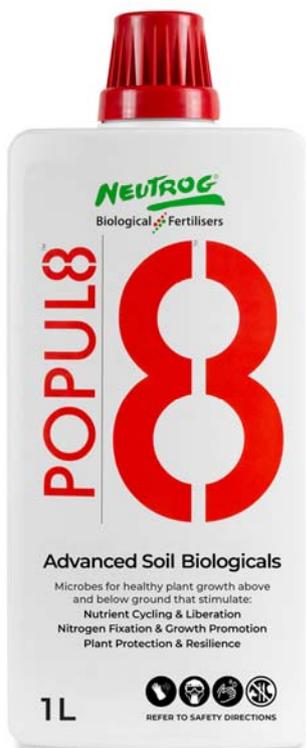
Loui was so taken with a seedling he flowered in 2000, he gained permission to name *Cym.* (Dag x Hazel Tyers) as Loui's Pride.

'Lucky' Loui will go down in club history as the only member to have an almost 100% success rate in the club raffles.

Loui had not been well over the last few years and had not been able to get out much. Those who were at the extravaganza last year were surprised to him and Irma. He still remembered everyone, greeting them by name. Irma told us after that he had enjoyed seeing the shows and his old friends. We pass our deepest sympathies and best wishes to Irma and the family on his passing.



Cym. Loui's Pride



CHANGE OF SEASON, IS A GREAT REASON TO POPUL8 YOUR SOIL

Get your garden autumn ready with a seasonal application of POPUL8 for healthy plant growth above and below ground.

POPUL8 is designed to occupy and populate the biological space in the soil and on plant roots which may otherwise be an available space for plant pathogens to inhabit - hence its name.

POPUL8 contains a diverse microbiome of 200+ naturally occurring microbes, plus a further 42 specifically selected bacteria and fungi have been isolated, identified and added for their individual and joint symbiotic purpose and beneficial characteristics.

The number and diversity of living microbes in POPUL8 can positively influence nutrient cycling, nutrient liberation, nitrogen fixation, production of plant growth hormones, protection and resilience against disease and bio stimulation.

POPUL8 should be applied once per season across the entire garden, and then as needed for plants showing signs of stress.



<p>Class:</p> <hr/> <p>Plant Name:</p> <hr/> <p>Exhibitor Name:</p> <hr/> <p><i>Cymbidium Club of Australia Inc.</i></p>	<p>Class:</p> <hr/> <p>Plant Name:</p> <hr/> <p>Exhibitor Name:</p> <hr/> <p><i>Cymbidium Club of Australia Inc.</i></p>
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A.G.M. Nomination Form 2024

Election of Office Bearers for the Cymbidium Club of Australia Inc. for the year 2024

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