

# **On-line Orchid Group**

## **August 2009 Newsletter**

Hi everyone and welcome to the online newsletter.

### **The Melbourne Orchid Spectacular is on this coming weekend.**

If you only see one show in Victoria this year the Melbourne Orchid Spectacular is the one to see. Three basketball courts full of orchids. Half show and half sales. 27 sellers from all over Australia plus one international.

We will be open Friday night for the first time up until 9pm with \$500+ worth of door prizes to be given away. (You will be given your free raffle ticket when you pay for your \$5 entry to the show any time after 6pm)

### **Show dates (Now to mid October)**

See Club homepages for further info and OSCOV site for the rest of the year.

**Friday 21st August - Sunday 23rd August**  
**OSCOV Show - Melbourne International Orchid Spectacular**  
Springer's Leisure Centre  
Cheltenham Rd., Keysborough (Mel 89 A10)

**Friday 28th August - Sunday 30th August**  
**Gippsland Orchid Club**  
Mid Valley Plaza  
Princess Dve., Morwell

### **September**

**Friday 4th September - Saturday 5th September**  
**South Gippsland Orchid Club**  
Town Hall  
Ballieu St., Wonthaggi

**Friday 4th September - Sunday 6th September**  
**Cymbidium Orchid Society of Victoria** \*\*\*\*\* (National Show) \*\*\*\*\*  
Springvale Town Hall  
Springvale Rd., Springvale

**Saturday 5th September - Sunday 6th September**  
**Sale & District Orchid Club**  
Cathedral Hall  
Cnr. Pearson St. & Macalister St. Sale

**Murray Valley Orchid Society**  
Scout Hall, Welsford Street  
Shepparton

**Southern Suburbs Orchid Society**  
Senior Citizens Hall  
Cnr Exley Dve. & Nepean Highway, Moorabbin (Mel 77 D6)

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September – Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September**  
**AOC 18<sup>th</sup> Orchid Conference & Show**

Werribee

See <http://www.mosorchid.org/AOCCConf2009.php> for details

**Saturday 19th September - Sunday 20th September**

**Dandenong Orchid Club**

Administration Building  
Dandenong Showgrounds  
Off Bennet St, Dandenong

**West Gippsland Orchid Society**

Anglican Church Hall  
Princes Way, Drouin

**Bairnsdale & District Orchid Group**

Lucknow Memorial Hall  
Omeo Hwy., Lucknow

**Mid-Murray Orchid Club**

Memorial Hall  
Nolan St., Kerang

**North East Melbourne Orchid Society**

Bulleen Heights School  
Pleasant Rd., Bulleen (Mel 32 G6)

**Goulburn Vally Orchid Society**

Senior Citizens Club Rooms  
Welsford St., Shepparton

**Monday 21st September - Sunday 27th September**

**Bayside Orchid Society**

Centro Brandon Park Shopping Centre  
cnr. Ferntree Gully Road and Springvale Road  
Wheelers Hill.

**Friday 25th September - Sunday 27th September**

**Stawell Orchid Society**

Entertainment Centre  
Main St., Stawell

**Saturday 26th September - Sunday 27th September**

**Berwick Orchid Club**

Senior Citizen's Hall  
112 High St., Berwick (Mel 111 D8)

**Maroondah Orchid Society**

Blackburn High School  
Williams Rd., Blackburn (Mel 47 K7)

**Australasian Native Orchid Society VIC. Group**

Mt.Waverley Community Centre  
47 Miller Crescent Mount Waverley

**October**

**Friday 2nd October - Sunday 4th October**

**Bendigo Orchid Club**

YMCA Leisure Centre  
Browning St., Kangaroo Flat

**Gippsland Orchid Club**  
Mid Valley Shopping Centre  
Princess Dve., Morwell

**Saturday 3rd October - Sunday 4th October**  
**Melbourne Eastern Orchid Society**  
Uniting Church  
Cnr. Burwood Hwy. & Blackburn Rd., East Burwood

**Warrnambool District Orchid Society**  
Warrnambool College Hall  
Grafton Rd., Warrnambool

**Ringwood Orchid Society**  
Maroondah College Hall  
Brentnall Rd., Croydon (Mel 50 E3)

**Geelong Orchid and Indoor Plant Society**  
Christ Church Hall  
Cnr. Moorabool & McKillop Streets

**Saturday 10th October - Sunday 11th October**  
**Colac Orchid Club**  
Colac High School, Assembly Hall  
Princess Hwy., Colac West

**St. Arnaud Orchid Society**  
RSL Hall, Raglan Street  
St. Arnaud

**Sunday 10th October - Saturday 17th October**  
**Mornington Peninsula Orchid Society**  
Karingal Hub Shopping Centre  
Frankston-Cranbourne Rd Frankston

**This month's orchid Odontoglossum Alliance**

The Odontoglossum alliance is made up of hybrids between Odontoglossum and one or more of: Cochlioda, Miltonia, Brassia, Oncidium amongst others.

We grow them unheated but under cover in sphagnum moss with a little chopped polystyrene. Other mixes include coconut fibre or 3-5mm bark with perlite.

They need to be kept moist all year round and don't like high temperatures during summer however plenty of humidity will help them get through.

Small plants 1-2 years away from flowering are available at around \$15-\$20 with flowering sizes \$20 - \$30. (Orchid nurseries & shows)



Oda. (Pescadero x Memtor)  
x Odm. pescatorei

## **General Culture for the month**

The main job over the next two months is taking care of the flower spikes. Now that the worst of the cold nights appear to be over I will also be repotting those cymbidiums which have finished flowering. Those which are not needed for showing will have flower spikes removed once they're fully opened so they can be seen to as well.

Aussie natives have finished the early flowering and we are now looking after the spikes on the main season types. (Keep a close eye out for slugs, snails, and aphids.)

Buds on the spring flowering cattleyas are well on the way. Intermediate and mini types tend to put up a growth and then flower all year round so they will need to be kept growing by keeping some moisture in the mix. For those growing in bark, the odd warm day or two can dry out the mix pretty quickly.

Paphiopedilums have been down on flowering in my case possibly due to the very hot days we had in summer. Nevertheless, keep the mix moist and keep air movement going in the house to avoid fungal problems.

Most other species need the moisture to be kept in the mix unless they are known to need a winter rest.

Max has planted up his pleiones for the coming season and flower buds are beginning to develop. They are also going to be well down on flowers this year and Max believes this is also due to those few very hot days.

My softcane dendrobiums are starting to show flower buds opposite each leaf. Once I'm sure they're flowers I will start to water again. They are currently hanging on a long piece of water pipe suspended under the northern eaves of the house. Here they can get the month or so of temperatures under 10 degrees plus full sunlight without getting wet. (Both needed to initiate flowers) They have had virtually no water for the last two month with the exception of one or two plants which have had a small drink due to slight shrivelling of the lead growth.

## **OSCOV's culture notes.**

Over the last few years we have been releasing a full set of articles from the 'Orchids in Victoria' series as each edition has sold out. (There are currently 117 articles available) These are excellent articles and include culture notes by Victorian experts on a range of commonly grown orchids as well as the more unusual ones. Simply go to any of the OSCOV pages mentioned below and click on 'Articles' in the menu.

## **IMPORTANT NOTE Re the 'aussieorchid' site**

Geocities in America has decided to close down their free websites in mid October. This will mean a move for my 'aussieorchid web' site. Where to at this stage is unknown however there is a link to the site on the AOC's website which I will get updated once the destination is known.

I will also notify you all in hopefully the next newsletter.

## **Websites of interest**

**Has anyone found an interesting or useful website that could be useful to members of the online group. If so, let me know and I'll include it in the next newsletter.**

## **Links:**

**Orchid Species Society of Victoria** [www.oscov.asn.au/ossv](http://www.oscov.asn.au/ossv)

**Orchid repotting guide** and

**Cymbidium staking guide** [www.geocities.com/aussieorchid](http://www.geocities.com/aussieorchid)

**OSCOV member clubs across Victoria** [www.oscov.asn.au/members.html](http://www.oscov.asn.au/members.html)

**ORCHID LINKS IN GENERAL** [www.oscov.asn.au/links.html](http://www.oscov.asn.au/links.html)

**The OSCOV forum** [www.oscov.asn.au/oscovforums/](http://www.oscov.asn.au/oscovforums/)

**Please forward this newsletter** if there is anyone you feel may have a use for the information. If they would like to join the group and receive the newsletter they should email [aussieorchid@yahoo.com](mailto:aussieorchid@yahoo.com) and provide first name and preferred email address.

Location (suburb, state or country) and any further information is optional.  
Please make the subject of the message 'Internet Orchid Group'

**Next Newsletter** Mid September (ish) TTFN Barry at aussieorchid

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