



21st Australian Orchid Council Conference & Show 'Orchids in the Foothills'

18th-22nd July, 2018

16 Stewart St, South Windsor NSW Australia

<http://aocc2018.orchidsocietynsw.com.au>

February 2018 Update

Greetings and best wishes for the New Year. We are moving closer to what is going to be a memorable display and conference at Windsor this year.

Registration remains open with the advantages of attending the lectures, the opening ceremony and earlier access to the displays and vendors daily.

If you do not wish to register, you can come as a **day visitor** for \$10 on July 20-22. This will get you into the displays and the vendor area for the day.

If you wish to hear particular lectures on a day, you may register as a **day registrant** for \$100/day on July 20/21

We would be most grateful if you could mention the conference at your meetings, in your bulletins and include in your list of coming events under July. We need all your support if these events are to be successful.

The Speaker Programme

We now have our speakers confirmed and the scientific programme will be unsurpassed for registrants.

- Tim Yam from Singapore, Orchid Breeding and Conservation in Singapore
- Fred Clarke from USA, Breeding Cattleya & Species and Hybrid Catasetiinae
- Andrea Niessen from Columbia, Beauty and Diversity of Columbian Orchids
- Masayoshi Takahashi from Japan, New Lines of Hybrid Slipper Breeding
- Alek Zaslawski from Brazil, Brazilian Habitat-Mountains & Brazilian Habitat-Amazon
- Scott Tan, Extending Growing Conditions
- Greg Bryant, Australian Cymbidium Breeding
- Stephen Monkhouse, Advances in Breeding Zygopetaliinae Hybrids
- Nicky Zurcher, Australian Slipper Breeding
- Kevin Butler, Novelty Cymbidiums
- Phil Spence, Benchmarks and Species in Australasian Orchids
- Ken Siew & panel, Breeding in Australia

A profile for each of these speakers and the provisional programme are available on the website:

http://aocc2018.orchidsocietynsw.com.au/scientific_program.html.

Expand your Collection with Vendors from around the World

From overseas variously offering flasks and/or plants

- Orquides del Valle from Columbia
- AWZ Orchids from Brazil

- Sunset Valley Orchids from USA
- Tokyo Orchids from Japan
- Ching Hua Orchids from Taiwan
- Hanajima Orchids from Japan/Thailand; and
- Orchid Inn from USA.

Our vendors from Australia are some of the best in the country, including some new growers and innovative products:

Alice's Orchids, Burbank Orchids, Dark Star, Ezi-Gro, Fong Ping Orchids, Johnston Orchids, Kuranda Exotics, MnS Orchids, Nicky's Slippers, Orchid Mart & George Serhan, Orchids on Newbold, Orchid Species Plus, Rosella Orchids, Tinonee Orchids, Sim's Orchids, Stephen Monkhouse Orchids, Woolf Orchid Culture, Western Orchids, Kiwi Orchid Bark, Swagman Sprayers, Orchid Things, C-Mac Nursery Equipment

The Vanilla Menu Challenge

We are involving the local community with an "Honour The Vanilla Orchid" Challenge, to make people aware that vanilla comes from an orchid plant (*Vanilla planifolia*) and to celebrate the contribution of vanilla to cuisine throughout history.

As an exciting initiative over the next six months, cafes and restaurants in the Richmond-Windsor region have been challenged to create a "vanilla flavoured" item for sale to customers, preferably by using Australian grown vanilla. Many thanks to Broken Nose Vanilla for offering sustainably produced vanilla products at discounted rates to all chefs.

'Silent' judges will patrol participating venues and select a winning recipe. Chefs may win a \$500 cash prize and customers may win a beautiful flowering orchid plant, to be drawn at the glamorous Opening Ceremony on 19 July. If you live in the area, please participate by ordering a 'vanilla flavoured' item when you eat out.

More information

You will find comprehensive information about all aspects of the Conference, including links to Registration, the Program, the Schedule and many accommodation options on the official web site:

<http://aocc2018.orchidsocietyNSW.com.au>

Overall the 21st Australian Orchid Council Conference and Show will be the best ever undertaken in Australia and we invite you to join in this celebration of the magnificent diversity of orchids. We look forward to receiving your Registration and welcoming you at the Conference.

Warm regards

Chris Dalrymple
Conference Chair