

Upcoming Events

2022

As soon bookings have been made for 2022, details will be posted here, as will details of other Societies functions.

30 Sep–2 Oct - E.R.O.S. Spring Show - Greenstone Mall

1 Oct - Vlake O V Show - Modimall, Modimolle

1-2 Oct – C.O.S. Spring Show – Kirstenbosch

28-30 Oct - Tygerberg O G Show - Willowbridge Shopping Centre



WITWATERSRAND ORCHID SOCIETY

P.O. Box 545, Randburg 2125

Email: info@witsorchid.co.za

Website: www.witsorchid.co.za

Instagram: [@witwatersrandorchidsociety](https://www.instagram.com/witwatersrandorchidsociety)

WhatsApp: Request to join Group

Fun & Friendship Through Orchids

October 2022

Meeting: SUNDAY 30th OCTOBER 2022

NB: *Special General Meeting (before monthly Meeting)*

TOPIC: My favourite orchid and how I grow it.

SPEAKERS: Marinus Kort & Wessel Bonnet

Date: 30th October 2022.

TIME: 1.30pm for 2.00pm

VENUE: **The Floreum, Northern Entrance, Johannesburg Botanical Gardens, off Oliphants Rd, Emmerentia.**

TEA DUTY

Irene and Richard Florence and Muff Baxter have very kindly volunteered to oversee the Teas and COVID duties. Thank you for your very generous offer.

RAFFLE

No Raffle

Congratulations!

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

A Special General Meeting will be held at the Floreum on Sunday, 30th October 2022. This will be held immediately before the October monthly meeting.

The purpose of this meeting is to “*resolve the management committee’s proposal that Life Membership be bestowed upon the following 3 members as recognition for the contributions they have made to the society.*”

- *Chris Steckner.*
- *Chris Hammond.*
- *Allan Abel.”*

Proxy notices have been sent out to all members by e-mail. If you unable to attend, please return your completed proxy as instructed

CANCELLED MEETING

September's meeting was cancelled due to a double booking for the Floreum by the City Parks Department. Therefore, this month's meeting will follow the programme proposed for last month's meeting.

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Women's Embroidery Guild' Market Day

The Witwatersrand Orchid Society has been invited to do a small display at the forthcoming "Women's Embroidery Guild' Market Day on Sat 29 October at Trinity Methodist Church to raise funds, and answer some questions.

Please let Marinus know if you have some plants that can be used for the display on 2 tables and if you can assist on the day.

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The Society will have a small display at this show. We hope to have members there to answer the public's questions. If you can help with plants and manning our display, please contact Marinus Kort.

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Test Your Knowledge

Announcing a new, fun addition to the monthly Newsletter. It will take the form of a quiz, with a question to be answered and the questions will vary from easy to difficult, so that all levels of knowledge will be challenged.

The way it will work is,

- the question will be given here every month.
- Your answer must be emailed to the Secretary, Kaitlin McNally at secretary@witsorchid.co.za with the title “WOS Quiz.”
- The closing deadline is the Friday before the Monthly Meeting.
- The correct answer will be notified on the WOS Whatsapp group, the monthly meeting and included in the next month’s newsletter.
- You must be a member of the Whatsapp group to be able to participate. Marinus Kort has been adding members to the Group. If you are not sure if you are a member of the group, please send a message, with your number, to Marinus requesting him to add you to the WOS Whatsapp Group.

This month's question is

Angraecum stella-africae is a beautiful, miniature, rare, epiphytic orchid found in north-eastern South Africa. What does the specific name “*stella-africae*” mean?

Last month's answer

In the 1970/1980’s, Valley Orchids Nursery in Australia developed and popularised a new line of Cymbidium hybrids. The flowers did not have any anthocyanin pigmentation which makes them very useful for the cut flower trade.

The answer is Pure Colour Cymbidiums.

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Encyclia randii

Encyclia randiii is a species not often seen in collections. I got this plant as a small plant from Plantae several years ago. I struggled to find the correct place to grow it in my greenhouse but finally found the spot as evidenced by the flowers and much larger pseudobulb this year.

This species comes from Brazil, Paraguay and Peru, where it grows in hot, rainforest lowlands. It enjoys high heat, light and humidity, and the 30cm flower spike can produce 10 - 20, 6cm striking blooms that are highly fragrant.



The flowers are long-lasting and are still looking fresh in their 4th week. As the flowers age, the sepals and petals turn a dark olive-brown and the lip retains its colour.



BEGINNERS CLASSES

The first Beginners' Class was held in the Floreum, Johannesburg Botanical Gardens on 13th September 2022. As a result of the erratic load-shedding, it had to be postponed twice. A timetable will now be drawn up for the 2023 Beginners' programme and will be sent out to all members nearer the time.



MONTHLY MEETING TALKS

At a Society meeting recently, there was a discussion about having different speakers and topics. One topic which the Committee adopted was to ask members to give a short talk on their favourite orchid, what it was and how to grow it. It was decided that having two members speak would not be too onerous for them and not make the meeting any longer than normal.



THE SEPTEMBER 2022 PLANT TABLE

Reminder on Rules of the Plant Table Competition

- All members are encouraged to bring their plants along for the Plant Table for display and education.
- To be eligible for the annual competition, members must have owned the plant for a minimum of 6 months.
- Please ensure that your plants and pots are clean
- Please inspect your plants for insects and diseases. Non-healthy plants will NOT be allowed on the Plant Table.
- A label must be completed for each plant exhibited.
- There are 4 classes in the competition
 - Best Species
 - Best Hybrid
 - Best African/Mascarene
 - Best Novice
- A Novice is defined as a member who has not won a Red Ribbon at any Show or won an annual Plant Table prize.
- At the end of the year, prizes are awarded to the member who has won the most “Best” monthly prizes, in each section. Prizes are awarded at the Year-End Function.

THERE WAS NO PLANT TABLE LAST MONTH

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Committee Members

Position held	Name	Email Address	Contact Details
Chairman	Marinus Kort	info@witsorchid.co.za	082 447 5081 011 794 1041
Vice Chairman	Chantal De Kock	shows@witsorchid.co.za	082 329 1747
Secretary	Kaitlin McNally	secretary@witsorchid.co.za	071 164 3530
Treasurer	Vacant – contact Chairman		
Meetings Organiser	Daniel De Kock	meetings@witsorchid.co.za	082 891 4903
Newsletter Editor	Allan Abel	editor@witsorchid.co.za	082 728 8360
Librarian	Mandy Kort	library@witsorchid.co.za	011 794 1041
Show Organiser	Chantal De Kock	shows@witsorchid.co.za	082 329 1747
Extra Member	Chris Hammond	extramember@witsorchid.co.za	082 653 4504

