



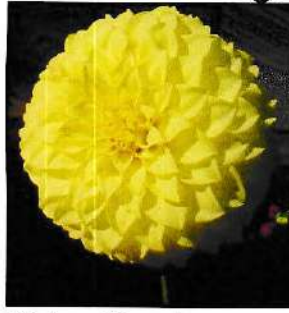
Tuber Talk 2011

Dahlia Society of Australia Inc

Winkie Seedlings 2011



Miniature Decorative



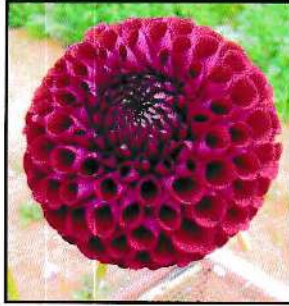
Miniature Decorative



Miniature Decorative



Ball Type



Ball Type



Ball Type



Large Decorative



Water Lily



Ball Type



Medium Cactus
front cover: Bracken Joan

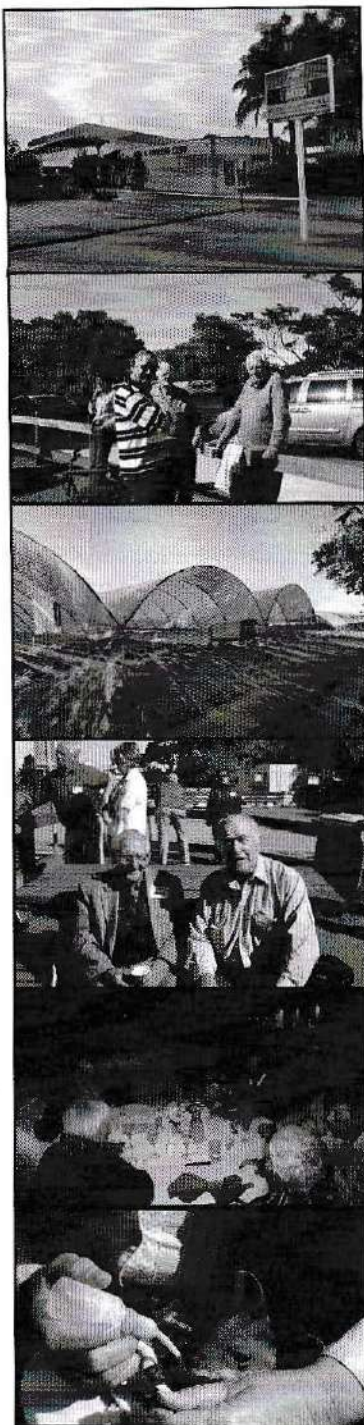


Medium Cactus



Orchid

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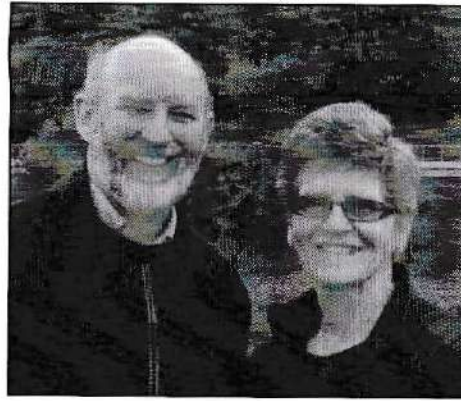
Editorial

*Malcolm & Christine Keller,
Crafers, South Australia*

Welcome to the first edition of Tuber Talk to be published under the banner of the Dahlia Society of Australia Inc. It is an honour and pleasure to be editing this first edition and we extend our thanks to all who have contributed articles. Particular thanks to Bob Rowlands, John Menzel and Nev Naumann for additional photographs. Publication is later than we would have liked, but other commitments and priorities have severely limited the time we were able to devote to this task.

What is pleasing, is that after years of drought in eastern and then Western Australia, the rains returned and went from too little to too much in some gardens. For many of us, however, the dahlia season was one of the best ever and with timely summer rains the need to water was reduced and garden care became a pleasure once more.

It was also a pleasure to attend the National Dahlia Conference hosted by the Queensland Dahlia Society on Bribie Island. The Motel and Conference facilities were first rate, as was the conference program and social activities. A number of presentations are summarised together with dahlia experiences of some of our growers and in particular that of John Woodfield, who was last year awarded an Order of Australia Medal for services to the community through the Horticultural Society of Canberra Inc. After reading his article 'Dahlias & the Back Fence' and one on 'Judging' we think you will agree, that his award was richly deserved and that June



also deserves recognition for her support and assistance over many years. In the coming season John will be providing a leading role in reviewing our judging standards.

Also featured in this edition are articles by veteran dahlia growers, Joan Matulick and Les Lawson, outlining some of the changes they have observed during their many years of involvement with our Dahlia Societies. Beneficial change is a necessary and continuous process for any organisation which will stand the test of time. We hope that this first national edition of Tuber Talk is part of that process and we also welcome the new DSA web site assembled by John Menzel and Annette Winter. It is very impressive and will be of great benefit to the dahlia community and members of the public wishing to gain more information about the dahlia and our Societies. The website address is www.dahliaaustralia.org.au

We hope you find this magazine an enjoyable read and that you regularly visit the DSA website for updates.

President's Report

*John Menzel,
Winkje, South Australia*

The formation of the Dahlia Society of Australia has been just like developing a new Dahlia Cultivar. It was at the Hobart & Jamberoo Conferences where Rob Clarke first pollinated the DSA seed. Rob outlined the needs for a structured National Body that had a committee representing all states and the need for Incorporation. In Adelaide the DSA seed was planted and a Steering Committee was set up. This Steering Committee conducted an email discussion that was open to all. This provided the information needed to come up with a proposal that would suit everyone. The proposal was built from the ground up **NOT** from the top down.

The St. Helen's 2009 Conference in Tasmania saw that seed germinate with all attending giving unanimous support for the establishment of a National Body. At this forum the members contributed valuable information that was vital in the setting up of DSA. The first DSA Tuber Auction was conducted and raised \$2,300.00 giving the organisation a good financial basis. It was here that the theme "Together we Build" developed.

In 2010 the Annual Conference went to Shepparton Victoria where we saw "Aussie" germinate and develop into a healthy plant. "Aussie" was pruned to ten laterals providing the Ten Dahlia organisations in Australia a forum for their views to be heard. It was at this conference that a constitution was adopted and a Committee of Management put in place. The committee heard the members' priorities and had to get the organisation Incorporated and establish a website. The aim of the website is to attract more people to the growing of dahlias and ultimately increase memberships. Our DSA Tuber auction was very well attended and after



some enthusiastic bidding another \$3,000.00 was added to the DSA funds. With solid advice from the American Dahlia Society, based on their experience, a contract was negotiated for the construction of the DSA website.

During the 2011 National Conference hosted by the Queensland Dahlia Society, "Aussie's" ten laterals developed buds. At the general meeting members heard that the DSA was now Incorporated and shown the progress of the website. The website will provide the ten dahlia organisations with their own page promoting their respective activities and events. At the general meeting recommendations were put forward, which included the name for the National Publication (Tuber Talk) and a review of The Standards. The Committee of Management met and have put into motion a Standards Review Committee with representatives from each state, DSA Badges, a generic promotional brochure/flyer for all states and societies, general insurance of all members, State affiliation fees set at \$20.00/state and magazine printing options. The Tuber Auction generated \$3,300.00 giving the DSA a sound financial foundation.

"Aussie" will come into bloom at the 2012 National Conference at Nowra hosted by the Dahlia Society of NSW/ACT Inc and all is in place for "Aussie" to take prizes in the future.

A Memorable Trip

*Malcolm and Betty Balch,
Stanthorpe, Queensland*

It was the Petal Pluck that did it! Having talked to John Menzel many times by phone and email since the concept was first raised by him, and having penned the "Pluckers Oath" just as a fun thing to add to the idea, the thought of actually being there to see the inaugural Pluck never really occurred to us. It was the secrecy bit that really inspired us to go ahead and plan the 1700 km trip. My standard response to John M's frequent nagging that we should be there to experience the initial Plucking contest, was, that I felt it was out of the question. I really did, until one day I thought it could be done, and I thought it would be *really* good to just arrive, preferably with some blooms, completely unannounced.

Then a dilemma presented itself, the Berri Floral Spectacular was held midweek, and the Mt Coot-tha Qld State Show was the weekend following, so attendance at both was impossible. However at the time of planning there was doubt over the Mt Coot-tha venue being available, and uncertainty over the show going ahead at all. So the decision was made ... we were going to Berri. With the show at Berri being a Wednesday show, it meant that we would have to leave Stanthorpe no later than midday Monday, and the complication here was that our Stanthorpe Show was the weekend before that Monday. This raised the problem of how many good blooms would be available, if any, and what types and or varieties. Basically we would not know until Monday morning. Anyway Monday morning showed that we had



enough reasonable blooms for an entry in the Inland Dahlia Championship, and also we could probably fit in another 10 blooms of either purple or white for the Berri Centenary Challenge. Our space for travelling the flowers was restricted somewhat by the camping gear we felt it necessary to take. We knew that the Menzel home would be full of visitors and so we would need to take our own accommodation if we were going to arrive unannounced. The tent and associated gear took up the entire back seat area, so the blooms had to fit into the luggage compartment at the rear. After much arranging and rearranging we hit the road at about 11.30 Monday morning. Everything went according to plan, that day, and we eventually stopped at a motel in Gilgandra for the night. Next morning we left the motel shortly after 4 am (Qld time) and got to Dubbo, where it became obvious that we had a flat tyre. So in total darkness on the outskirts of Dubbo a wheel had to be changed. In order to lower the "temporary" spare wheel and expose the jack and ancillary tools in our car, it is necessary to remove the floor of the luggage compartment. This of course entailed unloading the flowers, so muttering and cursing, with a stack of dahlias beside the car, hazard lights flashing

persistently, early morning traffic roaring past, we were trying to change the flat tyre. Finally it was done, and the flowers reloaded. However, the ignition key was turned to get us up and running to the nearest tyre repair shop, NOTHING. Not even the faintest whirring sound that usually heralds the demise of a battery. Apparently those hazard lights had been too much for our 4 year old battery and it had decided to call it quits. Thank God for the NRMA. A phone call and a short wait was rewarded with a very obliging mechanic arriving. Equipped with a range of batteries he soon had us back on the road to Dubbo, to the Bob Jane Tyre Service. It was still early, so while we waited for them to open, we unloaded all the flowers again under a nice shady tree nearby, and had a cup of coffee from the thermos. In the meantime we spent the time discussing dahlias with a retired Dubbo Vet, who also had a puncture, and had grown dahlias in England many years ago. We decided that in spite of the advice we had received from our local experts that the tyres on the car, which had done a remarkable 92,500 km, were still good for at least this trip, the expedient thing to do would be to replace the whole set. So with new tyres, new battery and a much lighter wallet we set sail again! An amusing anecdote came from the manager/owner of the tyre service, who said his young son had come by, and seeing the dahlias had enquired if someone had died under that tree!

Nothing more could possibly go wrong we thought. That was until the air conditioning in the car decided to have a fit of pique, and stop working. Fortunately it was not excessively hot, and with windows slightly down, and intermittent bursts of

cool air when the air conditioning decided to help, we continued in relative comfort.

We arrived at the Berri Town Hall, the show venue, at about 6.30pm that evening, to be greeted by some very friendly "helpers", who seemed rather amazed that we had come from Qld, and we were immediately put into celebrity status. Also unloading a small truckload of blooms was Alf Hardingham, who had made the long trip from Portland to support the show. We deposited our blooms in the staging area adjacent to the main hall and went to find the Menzel family.

The look on John's face and his unrepeatable initial greeting was I think the highlight of the trip!! Betty and I had been making bets as to what his reaction and greeting would be likely to be, and we were not disappointed!

After several colourful expletives, and reference to my uncertain parentage (as he perceived it), we received a more formal welcome and introductions to his house guests. Staying with the Menzels were Reg and Ginny from the UK, and Loney Kennedy from the USA.

Loney is a delightful gentleman, who on enquiring how many kilometres we had travelled, commented "my goodness ... that is a loooooong way"!! Whereupon he got up and wandered off, to the bathroom, I supposed. He returned shortly after, with a magnificent rosette that he presented to me. He had written on the back that he was presenting us with the award for having travelled the longest distance to the Riverland Floral Spectacular. We are now the proud owners of a rosette for the champion bloom at the Kitsap County

Dahlia Show! A very special gesture from someone we came to realise is a very special person.

The Menzels spent ALL NIGHT preparing and benching their blooms, as did I suspect, Alf Hardingham, who was the other major exhibitor with literally a small truckload of flowers. We put up our tent ... the house was full, as we expected ... and went to bed!! It had been a rather long day for a pair of geriatrics!! We were in the Hall early next morning and prepared our entries. Several of the blooms had not survived the trip well, so there had to be some rearrangement, and the purple and white Challenge had to be discounted. Finally we had our Inland Challenge looking quite respectable, and three entries in individual classes. Given the trauma of the trip, most of the blooms looked reasonable, but a couple of large ones had been damaged beyond redemption. In general we were quite pleased with the condition of the rest.

Shortly before judging was due to start John Menzel asked me if I would like to act as steward for the judge Les Williams. I found this a most enjoyable and informative experience. Les, besides being an extremely pleasant gentleman, is also a fund of information regarding dahlias, and went to great lengths to explain his decisions.

We were not successful in the Inland Challenge, however one of our Bracken Sarahs was awarded Champion Decorative of the Show, which was very pleasing. We also gained a first in the Small Decorative class with a white seedling, and a second with Gladys Johns in the Small Cactus class. John Menzel won the "big one" with an excellent presentation, and Alf Hardingham was awarded best bloom of

the Show with a very stylish orange Medium Cactus seedling.

So overall I think we have convinced ourselves that flat tyres, dead batteries, and temperamental air conditioning notwithstanding, it is possible to travel these spectacular dahlia blooms long distances, and achieve some success. Providing some light relief from the serious business of competition was the Petal Plucking Championship, that evening. Supervised by John Menzel in his own inimitable style, this was a huge success, with the local Mayors from Berri and two other neighbouring Shires, three Service Club representatives, and four members of the local media participating, it demonstrated the strength of local support for community activities in the region. An enthusiastic crowd of locals urged their favourite contestants on, and after three heats and the final "Pluck Off" the Mayor of Berri Cr Peter Hunt was pronounced the winner, and presented with a suitable sash. Who knows, perhaps we have witnessed the start of an international sport!

Impressions gained from the trip include:- Shows are much the same wherever they are held. Unfortunately it seems numbers of exhibits and exhibitors are down everywhere. Hopefully a seasonal thing. The Decoratives in the southern states tend to be trending more towards the Semi Decorative type. The level of promotion this Show received via the print, radio and TV media was nothing short of amazing. I was interviewed by radio, television, and twice by the print media, within a short time of arriving at the venue on show day, and a feature article appeared on the front page of the local paper next day. This of course did not happen by accident. A huge

amount of work went into this side of it by John Menzel, and great credit is due to him, as I doubt that there were many people in the region who were not aware that it was on. It would seem that John is almost single handedly doing more to promote dahlias than anyone else in the country, and should receive not only credit but all the support we can give him. Possibly the most impressive fact of all is that the entire proceeds of the event is donated to the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Because of this the show receives tremendous support from the local community by way of donations of practically everything required. Berri is a most attractive and well kept town, obviously reflecting the community spirit that exists. There are excellent facilities, and its situation beside the mighty and now delightfully full Murray River, make it a very popular tourist destination.

From my perspective this trip showed that a National Dahlia Show is feasible; it all depends on the inclination of those involved. A central venue that was within one day's travel, I feel sure could be found. This would allow exhibitors to get their blooms there in good condition. For Tasmanian growers cost would be a factor I realise, but it all comes down to the desire to participate. Three Victorian exhibitors made long trips to Berri to attend, Alf Hardingham and novice exhibitor Delia

Robertson made the long trip from Portland, and Rodney and Shirley Clarke came from Shepparton. While the Aylisse family and friends made the 10 hour trip from Port Lincoln in SA.

Betty and I learned a lot from this trip, mainly that it is very easy to get stuck in one's own small world and not be aware of other events in the rest of the universe! We



found it not only interesting but very informative to get out there and see what other growers are growing and showing, and I'm sure we will ultimately have a better understanding of dahlia growing in general, as a result of that. There is a slight variation in the style of blooms being grown in some areas, but I think diversity of thought is not a bad thing. As with most things in life, the hope that everyone will think the same, is probably an impossible dream! All in all a most enjoyable experience, and our sincere thanks to all those who made it so. The friendly and welcoming attitude of everyone we met, is something that will stay with us for a very long time.

My Australian Dahlia Experience

*Loney Kennedy,
Bremerton, WA, USA*

It all started on a bus tour in September 2004. It was the American Dahlia Society's National Show and I was doing my part as a "Tour Guide" on one of the buses. Our group had the longest ride of the tours, so I had to think of things to keep the passengers occupied.

I had a DVD showing the local area on the bus TV, we also had an artistic competition drawing single flowers on people's belly buttons with marking pens; we played trivia games, etc. While I was trying my best to be a good host, one of my guests helped take over the time on the microphone. It was a funny little man with a very white beard and hair to match. Almost like Santa Claus!

It was your John Menzel and we became instant friends. Over the years we kept in touch with letters and jokes via email. And from this chance meeting came one of the most wonderful experiences of my life! About 9 or 10 months ago John invited me to come to Australia to a few of your shows. At first I declined, but John being John, he soon changed my mind by offering a Murray River fishing trip! He never told me the river was flooded and unfishable! I arrived in Melbourne the day before the NDSV Show. John and Anne met me at the airport and took me straight to the show hall where we helped set up for next day's event. I was watching with great interest as the exhibitors began staging flowers. I was not too active, having been up for almost two days without sleep!

I finally was shown a bed at Dwight King's house. I wouldn't have cared if it was hard



as a rock! In the morning I was given a tour of the garden, and then off to the show and the day's activities.

Comparing the way dahlias are exhibited in Australia to the way we do it in the USA would be like comparing apples to oranges. Both are great, but each has its own set of rules, and is totally different. I think I would be totally lost trying to put together a "Championship Display" Australian style, but have no problem staging 3 Giant Zorros with attached leaves in a single vase! That night I spent a pleasant evening with another friend I met in the USA, Steve Cox and his lovely wife Vanda.

Back at the show, I took lots of pictures of the displays to show my friends back in Washington State. Your magnificent settings for the different championships were quite impressive, being very different to our way of displaying dahlias. The other sections could have been at one of my shows. The baskets, vases, arrangements and photo

sections in your shows are the same in Australia and the USA. I was very impressed with the different styles and originality used in presenting the dahlias. I was particularly impressed by a display in the Floral Arts Section; the exhibitor used a picture frame as a means for showing the beauty of their flowers.

Then it was off to Winkie and John's house, where I would be a guest for the next six weeks. I was finally going to see John's garden that I had heard so much about. I was amazed by the size of his seedling patch! I am a small hobby grower that only plants about 100 seedlings a year; John had over 1000! He has more "keepers" this year than I planted in total!

Next weekend it was off to the Mannum Show. The Flower Section was very poorly supported and was a let down for me! I think there were only two people showing dahlias? There were other flowers, but I was interested in looking at dahlias. The highlight of the Mannum Show was on the oval; the beautiful horses as well as the different carriages and wagons. Mannum Show had that small town atmosphere I am used to in Bremerton and find very enjoyable. The trip to Portland the next weekend was much better! I enjoyed Portland, not only because of the show, but the beauty of the city and the seascapes. I grew up on the Southern Oregon Coast and Portland reminded me of my youth! We arrived at Glenmarc Dahlias, Alf Hardingham's home, and were given accommodation for the weekend. Again I was shown a garden of dahlias, any of which

I would enjoy growing in my own garden! Just one of Alf's dahlia beds is larger than my whole property back in Bremerton.

The show at Portland was quite similar to Melbourne and comparable in the number of blooms exhibited. One of the highlights was our tour of the Portland Botanical Garden and all the dahlias grown there. It was unfortunate that the garden had not received better care. There were several dahlias that were incorrectly labelled and a lot of virus was evident in many plants. My personal highlight was watching the people enjoy the flowers; especially one little girl about 10 years old. Upon seeing the giant blooms she began jumping up and down and tugging on her mother to look at the size of the dahlias!

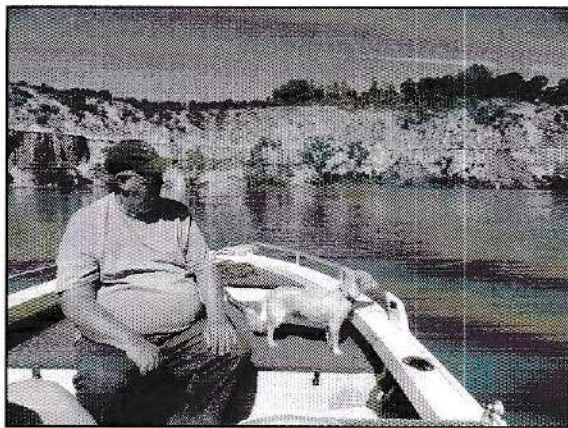
I enjoyed watching this young family and couldn't help talking with them. To break the ice, I pulled a discarded dahlia from one of the many vases and offered it to the little girl. She was beside herself with the joy of meeting an American that cared about her



and the dahlias. I asked if she would like to grow dahlias, and made a bold offer, offering tubers from John and Anne's garden to this

little girl. The family gladly accepted and I introduced them to John and Anne. This led to the introduction of dahlias to my new friend. They have since been in contact and John is preparing to put a variety of tubers together for shipment to this young lady. I bet one of them will be Winkie Colonel!

While in Portland I became a tourist and had to get a T Shirt with Portland on it for my son in Portland, Oregon. I finally found one in a tackle shop that was quite nice. It had a tuna on the back that would have been a salmon, if made for Portland, Oregon. Next was the "Riverland Floral Spectacular" in Berri. John had put in so much time and effort putting this show together that it was disappointing there was not more help from the local townspeople with the setup. There was great support for the show because it was a charity event for the "Flying Doctor". The businesses had special window displays and helped promote the show in many other ways, but most of the actual dahlia support was from outside Berri. The Floral Spectacular was a success despite several of the planned attractions being 'no shows'. Again this was similar to our dahlia shows, except we do not have roses and other types of plants and flowers. Then came the "Petal Plucking Championships." John supplied



about two dozen Hamari Accords to be plucked by various club, organization or dignitary representatives. The competition was held with several elimination heats, from which only the winner of that round advanced to the finals. I had the honour of being one of three 'foreign judges'; Reg and Ginny Appleby from England were the other two invited guest judges. It was our duty to count the number of petals each contestant plucked and declare a winner. The winner was the mayor of Berri. How appropriate. There was a raffle held with the top prize being a three day and two night houseboat excursion on the River Murray. I was asked to draw the winning ticket, and promptly picked my own name; that was almost embarrassing. I even thought about throwing the ticket back!

In order to be able to use this prize before I went back to America, I had to upgrade to a larger boat since the one offered was chartered. There were seven of us that made the voyage; John and Anne Menzel, Brian and Shirley Brind, Geoff and Ros Errington, and myself. It was a very relaxing and enjoyable trip until John was savagely attacked by a very wild and ferocious Yabbie!

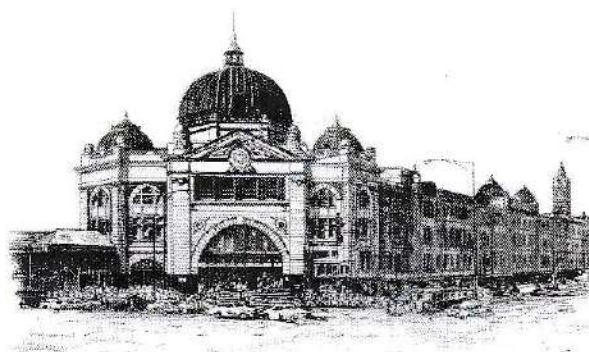
I have seen dozens of dahlias that I would like to grow, learned new ways to stage dahlias and would like to find some of the vases used in your exhibits. I like the use of oasis instead of shredded styrofoam as we do. What wonderful pictures of the Australian scenery and wildlife, and memories of friends I have made. I truly enjoyed my stay in Australia and have made many new and dear friends, too many to mention and I don't want to try for fear that I would leave someone out and hurt their feelings. I only hope I get the opportunity to return.

Changes Over the Past 50 Years

*Les Lawson,
Bulleen, Victoria*

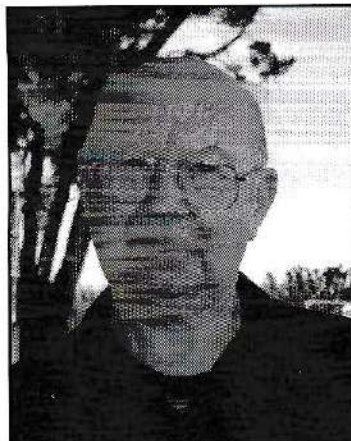
Having just completed my book about the history of the Victorian Dahlia Society (NDSV) I have been asked to give my impressions of the changes regarding dahlias and the dahlia scene over that period of time.

When I joined our society back in 1964 our meetings were held at the Flinders Street Railway buildings in the centre of Melbourne. As very few members had cars at that time, public transport, bus trams and trains were used by most members. There was a small car park that could accommodate 8 to ten cars and if you were unlucky getting a spot you could just park



in Flinders Street.

We used to attract 30 plus members to a meeting that included 7 or eight nurserymen, who were dahlia specialists. Carinya Nurseries, Orm Goold Dahlia Gardens, Dean's Dahlias, Willow Glen Dahlias, George Ryan were a few of the bigger suppliers of dahlias that attended plus a few smaller sellers of dahlias.



Meetings were mostly committee meetings in those days with very little dahlia information being given to the members.

As time went by our society slowly changed to having separate committee meetings and the monthly meetings became forums for information about dahlias.

The judging of the dahlia had a different points system than we use today. Dahlias were judged on the following: Form 7, Stalk 5, Condition 5, Size 5, Colour 3, a total of 25 points.

It is interesting to note that if blooms being judged received equal points, the dahlia with the longest stalk should receive preference over a dahlia with stalk and stem. These days we refer to stem not stalk.

I believe we now pay more attention to the form of the dahlia, ie, to the petallage and centre than was done in previous years.

Colour is an intriguing part of the dahlia because it the most appealing aspect to the public, but we give it so few points. We look at colour to see if it is dull, faded, and uneven, quite different to how the public views colour.

There was a more liberal view of what a dahlia type should be. As can be seen by the vase of pompons pictured below. Perhaps you can see very definite



decorative petals in this vase of pompons. This was a surprise to me as the Pompon standard has hardly altered from their introduction in the mid 1800's. As can be seen by the dahlia photo on the right, the Champion Miniature Decorative in 1967, the petallage is loose compared to today's standards. The bloom is 'Chinese Coral'.

The main difference between the blooms from the early 60s and 70s is the amount of petals they contain. As each year goes by the blooms get fuller and fuller as they achieve more petals through more modern hybridisation techniques. This in turn causes the petals to be more involute due to crowding. Thus the flat petal decorative

is slowly disappearing from the show benches. This also makes them look more like a ball in shape as they obtain more depth.

In 1973 we changed to the metric system and added a new size 'Large'. Previously we only had four sizes Miniature, Small, Medium and Giant. Giant was not really a giant as it only had to be over 8 inches (210mm). I do not know the reason, but during this period the medium sized dahlias started dominating the show benches. May be it was because through breeding the dahlia had more depth and petals and this made them more appealing. Also an interest in the lesser types of dahlias developed and as a result the Waterlily type began its resurgence. Bill Tapley stunned the world first, with Fern Irene. (*This dahlia received the first ever silver medal in our Trial Ground*). He followed up two years later with Figurine. Not much later up popped Pam Howden from Gar Davidson. This is still winning top awards at shows around Australia today. Another big change for us in Victoria was the formation of the ADC



in 1977. This promoted greater personal contact with interstate members and as a result dahlias not seen very much in Victoria began to appear on our show benches. When I started growing dahlias in the 1960s, Cactus and Decorative dahlias dominated our scene, some Pompons an odd Exhibition Cactus, but Waterlily and Fimbriated Cactus were rarely seen. The NDSV first dahlia classification book only listed five types of dahlias. We were known as the Dahlia Cactus Society. Since then the Single, Orchid and Colletterette have been receiving awards at our annual show. This year the best vase went to Bracken Astra, Orchid Type dahlia shown by John Menzel.

Some big changes in the dahlia growing scene have also come about. Everyone now has a car to transport blooms to the show venues. Earlier, this was not the case and some members had to travel by public transport to exhibit at a show. Blooms were packed in boxes carefully arranged so as not to damage them and then travel by tram or train to wherever they were going. Those exhibitors were really keen.

One garden club on the outer perimeter of Melbourne had to arrange their show schedule to fit in with the railway timetable. The judge would have to travel by rail to get to the show venue and the schedule allowed for this. But the biggest change today is in the electronic world with computers, etc. When the ADC was started 30 odd years ago, the postal service was the only way to correspond with fellow dahlia friends. The telephone was expensive to phone interstate members. Now we have emails coming in every day from not only interstate but around the world. It is much easier to go to the computer to find information about



dahlias now than hunting through books and magazine, etc.

With the formation of the DSA I look forward to some increase in the popularity of the dahlia in Australia. We will probably have a dahlia week in Australia sometime in the future that will entice more members to our clubs as the public becomes more aware of them. If this is ever achieved and more people do become interested in the dahlia, let us remember we are a dahlia society for the betterment of the dahlia and not an exhibitor's society. It has been noticeable over the past years that some people come to our society expecting to receive some information about the growing of the dahlia, but get disillusioned when we only talk about showing varieties. Garden varieties do exist and many people like them. Some people do like border dahlias as can be seen in the photograph above and some people do not wish to exhibit them. They just wish to admire this very colourful flower.

Changes I have Experienced

Joan Matulick,

Christies Beach, South Australia

My dahlia experience dates back to 1977 when my late husband started showing dahlias. Since that time the quality, diversity and methods of treating and transporting blooms has changed.

In those early years the late Gayner Parker conducted classes at his home regarding the standards for judging. Some of the things he concentrated on were the difference between a Cactus and Semi Cactus and Formal and Informal Decoratives. At that time Balls were called Show Type and like Pompons were expected to have involute petals with round tips. Pointed tips were not acceptable. Compared with the blooms of today, Decoratives were fairly rough with very little depth and as a consequence the name 'dinner plate' dahlias evolved. Similarly, Semi Cactus and Large and Giant Cactus were also shallow and like the Decoratives have under gone great improvement in form, petal count and depth. Waterlilies were called Nymphaea type during the 70s and 80s, with varieties like *Meadow Lea* and *Innocence*. By comparison with varieties we exhibit today they lacked petals and substance and fell away at the back.

Fimbriates have also improved with the splaying of splits at the end of the petals being deeper. Exhibition Cactus and Peonies on the other hand have not shown much change compared with other types. Up until the 80s the only Orchid type being grown was *Koala*, the only Stellar was *Giraffe* and *Comet* was the only Anemone. It is pleasing to see that today there are many



more of each of these types and there has been a marked improvement in the quality of their blooms. The persistence and interest of breeders has played a large part in these developments. Further diversity has been achieved since the introduction of Singles, Peonies and Semi Decoratives to the Standards in 1999.

Associated with this was the formation of the ADC in the late 70s. The States became closer in their Standards and terminology and also through exchange of cultivars. This has become particularly important as changes in quarantine regulations have made it much more difficult to import new varieties from overseas. Australian breeders have responded through breeding programs of their own and have produced cultivars such as *Figurine* and *Embrace* which have been recognised as outstanding in gardens and on show benches in other parts of the world.

The introduction of Semi Decoratives was particularly beneficial, as it saved a lot of varieties being consigned to the bin. They did not qualify as Formal Decoratives since they did not have flat petallage and they were not Balls, and although the petals were involute they were pointed rather than round. Among the improvements in all types over the last 30 odd years has been the development of stronger and longer stems, better substance and greater depth in the flowers.

Diversity in the range of types listed in show schedules has also increased with many making space for 'lesser types'. While they are to some extent an acquired taste, good quality blooms of each type are capable of attracting a lot of favourable attention on the bench. In South Australia the State Show has always included all types and sizes of dahlias. This has encouraged exhibitors to become familiar with the differences between them, eg. Cactus or Semi Cactus.



Treatment and transport of blooms has also changed. These days we no longer scold or burn the stems after picking and most of us transport them with stems in

containers with water. Years ago it was quite common for smaller blooms such as Poms to be packed flat in boxes.

On the disappointing side, the number of exhibitors at our shows has declined as has our membership. It would be nice to think we could attract more

growers and members to take advantage of the significant improvements that have been achieved in the form and diversity of dahlia cultivars available today.



Dahlias in France

*Yoann Beaumont,
Chartres, France*

Yoann is President of the French Dahlia Society. We have endeavoured to translate his English expression as accurately as possible. Editor

The French tradition of dahlia growing and that of the French Dahlia Society is somewhat different to that in parts of the world where Anglo Saxon traditions prevail and floral competition is a central part of the horticultural scene.

In France we have very few Dahlia shows because the main emphasis is on growing dahlias as annuals intermingled with other plants. Three places where dahlias may be encountered in competition situations are Paris (the Floral Park of Vincennes), Coutances (Horticultural High School) and Orleans (the Floral Park of the Source). These events are not held specifically for dahlias. Rather, they are display gardens with a show of dahlias, which are judged by everyone who wishes to lodge a vote. The judging is of the garden plant as opposed to floral arrangements or cut flowers. On a more serious competitive note the City of Paris organises an international competition for dahlias with a technical jury to ensure a

customers and growers that the assessment is discerning and reliable.

The French people love roses and like dahlias a lot. They are the most popular of the summer bulb varieties, because they are inexpensive, easy to grow and traditional. Everybody remembers their grandparents growing dahlias in their display or kitchen garden. The French reality is that the

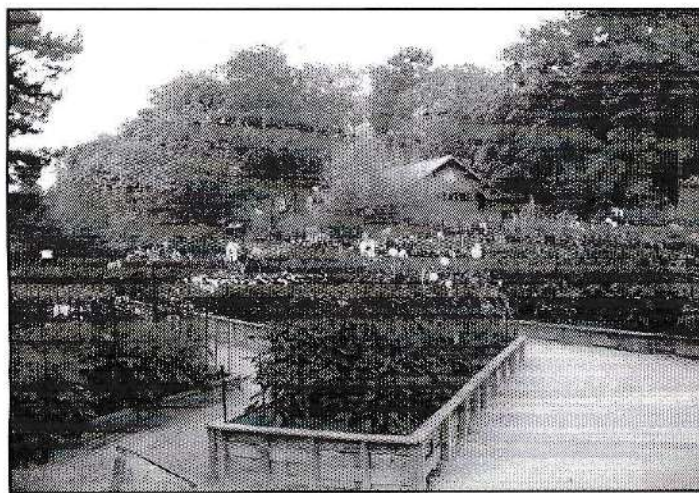


My collection, Yoann Beaumont, Chartres, in September 2010

dahlia is a good plant with lots of flowers making it ideal for the garden with the added bonus of cut blooms if desired.

Most French gardeners are not looking for perfection in form or stem length of blooms, but this is not the case for breeders, who select for both a good garden plant and good flowers for floral arrangements. Well formed blooms which stand above the foliage, long flowering period and a bush which does not require staking or disbudding is the goal of most

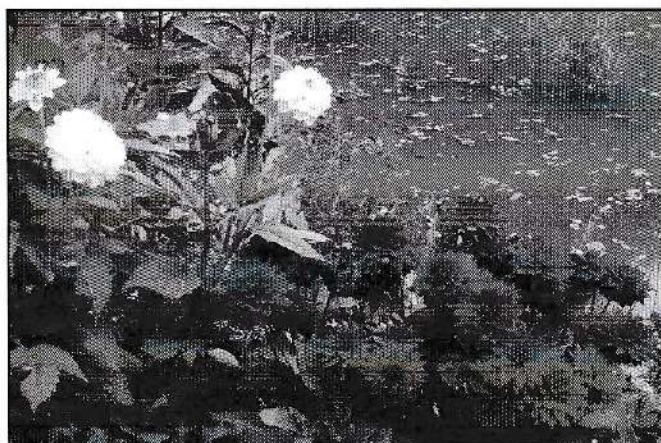
breeders. There are also those who specialise in breeding low growing and dwarf varieties for containers and borders. Professional breeders are responsive to buying habits of the public and as with amateur breeders like myself, they cannot resist a beautiful flower whatever its technical qualities. Every wonderful thing is possible with dahlias.



Traditional presentation of French competition, Paris, The Floral Park of Vincennes

In keeping with these attitudes, the French Dahlia Society wants to gather healthy, old reliable varieties and good new varieties from all over the world. Our intention is to

Normandy. Each year, if there are no problems for the gardeners of this town, the collection increases. Currently, the French Dahlia Society, Michel and I, are proud of growing nearly one thousand varieties. All being well we hope to continue this venture into the foreseeable future.



Jardin des Tuileries Plantations, Paris

propagate, grow and conserve so that survival of the dahlia is assured. In 2005, the collection of previous President, Michel Robert, was installed in the park of the castle of Flamanville, a little town of

Postscript:
It was the intention of the SA Dahlia Society in conjunction with the Adelaide Botanic Gardens to send a consignment of iconic Australian Raised dahlia tubers to the Botanic Gardens in Paris at the end of last season. Unfortunately we encountered problems with quarantine requirements. We will try again. This time by taking cuttings, growing pot tubers and having the plants inspected regularly by Quarantine Services and paid for by the Botanic Gardens. Editor

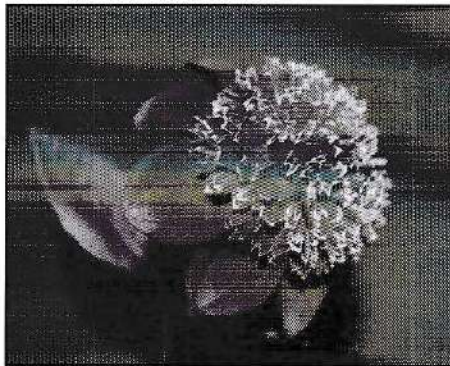
To Bee or not to Bee!

apology to William Shakespeare

*Malcolm Balch,
Stanthorpe, Queensland*

After a lifetime of breeding one form of livestock or another, including cattle, sheep, goats and poultry, I have always been a strong believer in being in control of the breeding program, who gets to go with whom, and the matching of desirable traits, or the attempted elimination of undesirable features. This is common practice in the livestock world, so when I started with dahlias I imagined that was the way to go. Imagine my surprise then, when I learned that many of the notable dahlia breeders just sat back and watched the bees do the work and make the decisions. The entire process of breeding developing into a kind of lottery.

That was not for me I decided, I was going to be in control, and bag the parent plants with organza bags, diligently pollinate the



seed parent with the pollen donor, collect the seed pods, plant the seeds, tend the seedlings, and generally go to a great deal of effort. Those who have done it will vouch for the huge amount of work that goes into



it, especially when you can't resist trying just one more cross!

For family reasons we have decided to move. As the intended sale of our current property could take some time in a rather sluggish real estate market, we decided to move the dahlia patch to the new site and get it established now, rather than have the situation of a buyer for the property in the middle of the dahlia season. The new patch is established and going well, in spite of a nasty hail storm just as the plants were surging away.

The old patch here, as a consequence of the work involved with the new patch, languished in a state of complete neglect. Then, in spring, seedlings appeared in it, and then more, then still more, until there were literally dozens, if not hundreds! Slight exaggeration, but there were, *are*, a lot!

Shortly after the multitude of self sown seedlings started to bloom, I decided to quite literally fight my way into what had

developed into a veritable jungle of inkweed, fat hen, cats pee weed (that's what we call it because that is how it smells), a pervading pumpkin plant, and sundry tomatoes. Braving potential attack by black or brown snakes, and my nervousness heightened by half grown rabbits rustling around in the undergrowth, I fought my way in. After a few steps, and on the point of "chickening out", my attention was drawn to a splash of brilliant red in the dense understorey. There, struggling valiantly against insurmountable odds was ***the best Anemone bloom I have ever seen***, pictured on left, p 20. It had eight perfectly formed and rounded, dark red, ray florets, with a neat and well proportioned cushion of lighter red tubular florets delicately edged with gold. To say I was gobsmacked would be a monumental understatement. Anemone dahlias have never been a great favourite of mine as the ones I have seen, or tried to grow, have always been a bit erratic in form or unruly in growth habit. This one, however, is something else.

The curious thing about this whole episode is the fact that I only grew one Anemone plant last season. It was a plant that didn't impress me at all. The blooms were untidy and irregular and it just didn't perform in our patch. The only impressive thing about it was its ability to produce copious amounts of seed. Obviously that plant was the seed parent, or so I assume, but who was the pollen parent? Not being aware of the processes involved in developing the Anemone type, I am curious to know how my lovely new cultivar came about. Could it be that the bees accidentally pollinated the



two types necessary to create the Anemone, or did they pollinate the existing Anemone plant with another type which improved the "mother" plant, or is it possible that the Anemone (or any other type for that matter) can self pollinate? Perhaps someone with far more dahlia knowledge and experience can enlighten me.

Needless to say I have hacked away the rampant pumpkin vine, pulled out the intimidating inkweeds, and generally lavished generous amounts of fertiliser and TLC on this struggling little gem. Who knows, in due course, if the weather and all the other factors involved in the growing of dahlias are kind to it, I may be able to introduce this lovely flower to the outside world!

Now, of course, there are well worn tracks through the undergrowth, and I eagerly investigate each morning, hoping to find another minor miracle among the bevy of blooms that have appeared. Although there are a few "blooms of interest," as yet there is nothing to compare with that Anemone.

One overriding feeling to emerge from this experience is a renewed respect for those magnificent and hard working bees. They achieved something that I wouldn't have thought possible, and with no effort

from me! Now, the dilemma is whether I should let those industrious little creatures take over the breeding process, or do I continue to imagine that I am in control. Perhaps a combination of both is the way ... if you can't beat 'em, join 'em!

Dahlias & the Back Fence

John Woodfield,
Hughes, Canberra

My first introduction to dahlias was while doing some electrical work at CJ (Cecil) Steele's residence in Crawford Street in Queanbeyan. Here were these funny flowers with butter boxes over half of them. It turned out that Cecil was the leading dahlia grower in the surrounding area at that time. This was around 1960 and little more was thought about dahlias until 1963 when June and myself moved into the new and first suburb in the Woden Valley here at 1 Spence Place, Hughes in Canberra.

A friend Royce Howlett gave us some dahlias to plant in our new clay soil so as to hide the back fence. We did not know then that these dahlias were passed down from Cecil Steele and by the standard of the day more than reasonable stock. The soil in the back had originally been sown to pasture and was relatively undisturbed during building. As a result we grew some very vigorous dahlias with lots of colour that soon hid the back fence to a height well above our heads. We remember cultivars like *Dulcie May*, *Rose Fletcher*, *Lady Bonnyton*, *Bertie*, *Sandra Bromley* and several others. Dahlias eight and nine feet tall, falling everywhere because we knew little about staking etc. We continued to add to numbers with Royce's new stock to cover the whole fence after a couple of years.

Around this time the Bungendore Show (small town about 50 km from Canberra where I had grown up) was reintroduced and we took some vegetables there to compete with my father, who had little



opposition, and of course somebody suggested taking a few flowers. As with the vegetables there was not much opposition, so we came away with a few prizes. In those days the local paper made a big thing of show results and Cecil Steele spotted them and then convinced us to bring some to the Queanbeyan Show in around 1966.

I took Friday morning off work and turned up with what we thought were some pretty good flowers. That was until Cecil arrived with his first load. One look quickly convinced us to put ours quietly back in the car and never be that silly again. Cecil, having an eye like a hawk, spotted me putting ours back in the car and politely told me we were not as clever as we thought, but we had better put them up as space had been left for them. End result was a second in a class with no other entries. Cecil laughed to kill himself and we pleaded with him to tell us where we were going wrong, where to get some as good as his and how to grown them. End result; he had another laugh and said old

footballers should stick to refereeing and that I would not have the nous to be able to grow something that good. Response; we will beat you in two years or bust. Another laugh. To this day we do not know if he did not want to share his knowledge or bargained on our competitive nature to get sucked in.

Having drawn a blank with Cecil, we were lucky enough to somehow contact Orm Gould in Victoria and purchased some new and as luck now tells us, very good dahlia stock together with his growing tips that we continue to use to this day. End result; twelve months not two years and we managed to beat Cecil in many classes. It was now his turn to plead for information and our turn to laugh. After that Cecil went out of his way to tell us many things that helped us along the way. That is all history now and we are still learning. The other thing we learned was that if we could help someone gain some knowledge and help them immediately it would be more beneficial than waiting until they improved themselves. Of course by now we were really hooked and started a journey that continues to this day.

From Bungendore and Queanbeyan we graduated to Canberra Show where we met many other hard headed dahlia growers such as Ian Widdowson, Jim Macfarlane,

Keith and Edna Brew, Tony and Daphne Davis and several others. Again a ribbon at our first show; the judge liked our white flower. Here we were convinced to join The Horticultural Society of Canberra and compete at the Albert Hall Autumn Show. History now tells us we are still members and still competing not only with dahlias but many other flowers. Again we won a ribbon at our first show at the Albert Hall with a Medium Cactus called *Glennis* that we had bought out of a Woolworths packet on special in November. The fact the back petals fell out about an hour after judging did not stop us being hooked for keeps.

After this early success we started to travel.

First to Cooma, where we were to make many life long friends with people like Arthur and Joy Humphries, Alf Brown, Beryl Schaefer from Cobargo and the chief steward Len McInnes. Little were we to know what a great impact



these people were to make to our enjoyment of people and flowers in the following years. Arthur and Joy took us in for meals and this included feeding two growing boys and putting up with their noise. Next we visited Yass and Goulburn and made many more life long friends. Our biggest 'mistake' also occurred here when Howard Hollingsworth and Ken Burdon introduced a person, who would like to obtain and grow some dahlias. That

of course was Neil Brooker and together with George Bullman they were to become everyone's main opposition for many years. It was in Yass that we caught up with Geoff Delaney and were made very welcome at all times. In Goulburn we met up with Charlie Kennedy, Evan Trehearne, Tom Cramp, Ron Wilkes and later Alan Strachan and many others.

It was not long until we made our way further a field to Mittagong and then to The Sydney Royal Easter Show.

Travelling in the middle of the night down the old highway through Bargo, Picton, over the Razorback past Anthony Horden's tree and to the old showground at Randwick. The Sydney trip was five hours plus if the fog was not too bad. June, two boys and myself on the front bench seat and a load of flowers in the back. How things have changed! Today with all the bypasses and improved roads the trip from Hughes to the new showground complex at Sydney Olympic Park at Homebush takes just three hours with a stop for coffee on the way.

We of course joined the NSW Dahlia Growers Association when it was formed and have seen it grow into the NSW & ACT Dahlia Society Inc. Through this Society we have been able to keep in touch with old friends such as John Sercombe,

Elwyn Notly, Fred Stralow and continue to meet new comers and hope we can help them to get as much enjoyment as we have had from our involvement with the dahlia. Around this time I was invited to think about judging and as I had been a Rugby referee for some years it did not worry me that some mistakes would be made in the process. In this Bruce Hamel and others were a great help, even when I did not think the way they were going was correct. This has become another avenue to meet

people and enjoy flowers as well as keep in touch with people from Bega to Orange and beyond. We hope that this will continue for sometime to come.



Having a keen interest in judging led to being involved with the changes that produced an Australian set of standards and if we have helped with this to some extent it is very rewarding.

Over the years we have attended and spoken at several ADC Conferences. Here again we have made many new and life long friends interstate and hope to continue to catch up with many of these people at future Conferences. June and myself can only hope that others will gain as much pleasure over a long period of time as we have out of being hooked on a few dahlias up the back fence.

New Varieties

*Charlie Smith,
St Helens, Tasmania*

Over the seasons many of my friends have sent me new varieties. Some old, some new and it is great to look at them every morning to evaluate them. These are my comments on the new ones in my garden this season.

Winkie Pat: same form only a deeper colour than LE BATTIS PRIME. It will be handy on the show bench.

Winkie Centurion: very deep mauvish pink. This one will show up in championships. A very neat Miniature Decorative.

Glenmarc Cardinia: orange giant Decorative. Plenty of size, good form, good stems, only the tips of the petals are pointed. Some judges do not like that form. I do.

Wakefield DJ: a yellow Medium Cactus with beautiful form. Not a strong bush, but top quality flowers.

Wakefield Pink: a lovely soft pink Small Cactus. If I can get a good centre in this, it will be a winner.

Glenmac Tamini: a butter yellow, small Cactus with nice straight petals and long stems. This will be more than handy on the show bench. I would like to see a couple more rows of petals. Early in the season it will grow to a medium.

Glenmarc Roslyn: a red Medium Cactus. It flowered late, but showed enough promise to encourage me to grow it again.

Christie Jewel: a very nice purple Single. Do not disbud and it will go to 180 mm.

Narrawfest: white with scarlet tips, Miniature to Small Cactus. I could not get

a centre in it, but I see that it got a best of show in Qld, so I will give it another try.

Bracken Hydra: orange to a lemon base Waterlily. Get your hands on this one. The best Waterlily in my garden this season. It has strong tall plants with flowers on long strong stems, and has true form.

Narrows Tricia: lemon medium Semi Cactus. To me it is the image of Hamari Accord, until you dig it up.

It has large round tubers, not pencil thin ones, and stores well. I will grow this instead of Hamari Accord.

Darbro Gift: lemon Exhibition Cactus. A handy flower, but could have more petals that have a bend in them, and I had a lot of red stripes on some of the petals. If I have enough room I will grow it again.

Glenmarc Royal: a purple Ball with perfect tubular petals and nice round blooms on very low bushes.

Granite Appollo: yellow Medium Informal Decorative. Tall grower, not all blooms are show stoppers, but it gives up some very handy blooms.

B J Rival: pink with yellow tubular petals in the centre. One of the best Anemone dahlias I have seen.

Lillian 15: deep pink and yellow Orchid. The best Orchid in Tasmania this season. I like it!

Brooks Entice: a lovely soft pink Single. This one is good and I will grow it again.

Araluen Oberon: a deep burgundy/crimson Single. It is good to see that we are raising new cultivars of the less recognised types.

Breeding with Success

Neville Naumann

Bracken Ridge, Queensland

Many of our old favourite dahlias have a history of losing strength and developing open centres, so there is a constant need to replenish our requirements of growing stock. A very interesting way of doing this is through breeding your own.

To have reasonable success you need to understand that we must look upon each type of dahlia (Cactus, Decorative, etc.) as a breed that should not be crossed with a different type. The best way to achieve this is by hand pollination. Seedlings produced this way have a higher proportion of acceptable blooms than those crossed by bees that have no regard for dahlia types. It is very important that you select parent plants that are closest to the Standard for each type, paying particular attention to the petals that determine each type.

Dahlias are said to be out breeders so it is best to use different varieties as parents. I have found that some dahlias do not have viable pollen. With experience you will learn which perform for you. A Decorative that I have found to be a good seed bearer is Sylvia Craig Hunter.

To prepare for crossing, I cover the blooms to receive pollen (recipient) with a sock made from a 15 cm section cut from nylon stockings. This material does not hold moisture and provides good ventilation.

Cover the bloom when it is close to being open, by attaching a piece of plastic coated wire to the stake and around the sock to the stem. Pick the pollen donor when the centre is open and before pollen appears. The donor bloom is taken inside where pollen will form. When the recipient and the donor stamens are covered with pollen take the donor bloom to



the seed bearer and gently brush the centres face to face. Replace the cover on the recipient bloom when pollination is complete. The donor will continue to form pollen and the pollination process is repeated for two more days. I always put a label with both abbreviated names and the dates of pollination, as a guide to the harvesting date, which is approximately 6 weeks later. It is advisable to remove the sock a few times after pollinating to extract dropped petals. When the pod has closed the sock can be removed and I then dust the back of the pod with dusting sulphur to combat mould.

If you are unable to make a daily inspection of the pods after 6 weeks of maturing, I suggest that you reattach the sock. This is to avoid loss of seed during an explosion when the pod matures.

Finally a word of warning. About a year ago, during an attack of Black Pollen Beetles I used Confidor on the blooms to protect them from attack. Not one seed was collected!

I wish you luck and enjoyment with breeding and hope the results of your labour provide you with blooms that you can enjoy.

Set out below are some of the successful crosses I have used and which other breeders may find useful. The number refers to the year in which each of the following cultivars was produced. All cultivars have the prefix *Bracken*

Decoratives

Jenny Cain x Kosi Snowball : - 89 Jupiter, 78 Rocket, 83 Comet, 84 Venus, 88 Aurora, 87 Snowflake, 84 Blush & Confused

Alvin Purple x Kosi Snowball : - 89 Minerva, 90 Avalon, 91 Catherine, 91 Royale, 90 Camelot, 90 Fantasy

B Nikolaus x B. Jupiter : - 94 Amy, 92 Enfield, 94 Paragon, 94 Iceberg, 95 Petite, 95 Heritage, 95 Corona, 96 Joan, 98 Pastelle, 96 Laverne.

Sylvia Craig x Formby Frost : - 02 Ariel, 02 Promise, 02 Symbol

Other Decoratives

B Royale x Formby Frost : - 94 Classic

Moray Velvet x B Jupiter: - 93 Crimson

B Joan x Moray Velvet: - 94 Ebony

Sylvia Craig x Maisy Mooney: - 05 Fanfare

Horn of Plenty x Kosi Snowball: - 85 Flare

Alvin Purple x B. Venus: - 88 Moonglow

Moray Velvet x Kosi Snowball: - 92 Nikolaus

B Nikolaus x Downs Hazel: - 08 Ross

B Blush x Horn of Plenty: - 86 Scarlet

B Joan x Downs Hazel: - 04 Triumph

Jenny Cain x Kosi Snowball: - Confused

Waterlies

Wildwood Marie x Figurine: - 02 Aquarius, 02 Symphony, 02 Lorelei, 02 Lorelei (England), 02 Glacier, 03 Dainty, 03 Snow,

Moray Susan x Figurine: - 2 Calypso, 92 Hydra

Ladies Choice x Figurine: - 85 Ballerina

Brunell x Figurine: - 81 Sunburst

(B Ballerina x Figurine) x B Sunburst: - 87 Triune

Cactus

Aitara Fiesta x Just Judy: - 00 Festival, 02 Wildfire

Aitara Fiesta x Everton Bliss: - 95 Beauty

Karen Joy x Trixie Telford: - 85 Dawn

B Magic x Just Judy: - 03 Elva, 06 Gleam

Daleko Venus x Trixie Telford: - 87 Galaxy

Aitara Wee Di x Just Judy: - 99 Harmony

Daleko Venus x Mrs J Robertson: - 86 Rhapsody, 95 Leigh

Daleko Venus x Aitara Fiesta: - 00 Magic

Bracken Galaxy x Winkie Lunar: - 91 Sonya

Collerettes

Aitara Pooh Too x Moray Apache: - 04 Solo

Orchids

Ada Hardisty x Christie Marie: - 90 Astra, 90 Starlight, 89 Twinkle



Bracken Nikolaus



Parent Moray Apache
Photos of more Bracken cultivars and
parents are on pages 38 and 39.

Insecticide Resistance Management

*Col McLaughlin,
Morayfield, Queensland*



IRAC MoA Classification Version: 7.1

Introduction

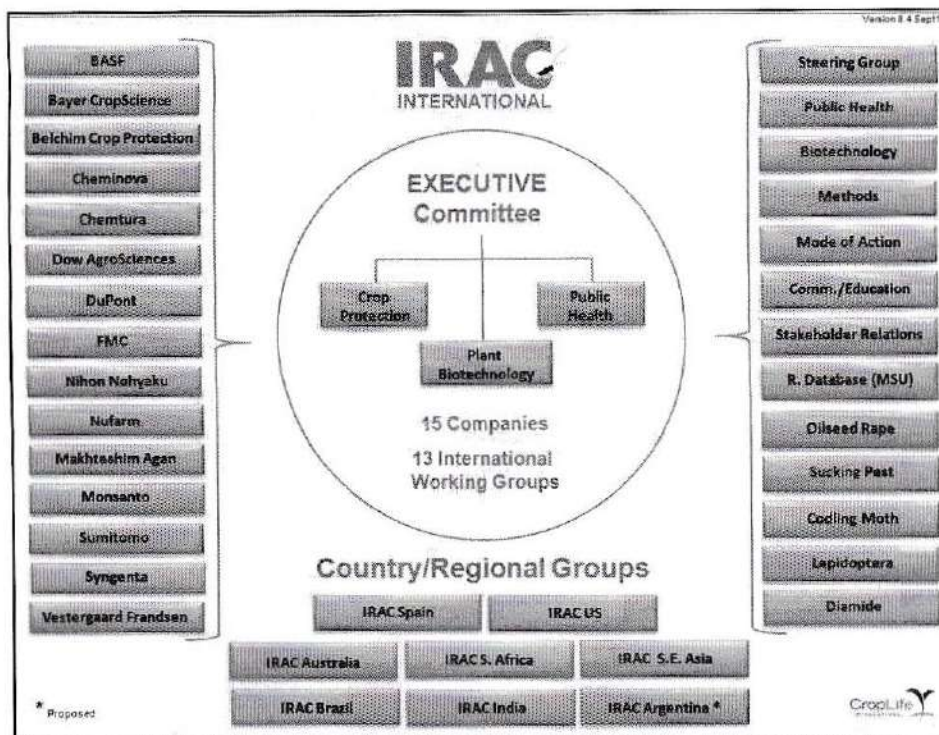
The IRAC Mode of Action (MoA) classification provides growers, advisors, extension staff, consultants and crop protection professionals with a guide to the selection of insecticides or acaricides for use in an effective and sustainable insecticide or acaricide resistance management (IRM) strategy. In addition to presenting the MoA classification, this document outlines the background to, and purposes of, the classification list, and provides guidance on how it is used for IRM purposes. The list is reviewed and reissued at intervals, as required.

What is resistance?

Resistance to insecticides may be defined as 'a heritable change in the sensitivity of a pest population that is reflected in the repeated failure of a product to achieve the expected level of control when used according to the label recommendation for that pest species' (IRAC). This definition differs slightly from others in the literature, but IRAC believes it represents the most accurate practical definition of relevance to growers. Resistance arises through the overuse or misuse of an insecticide or acaricide against a pest species and results from the selection of resistant forms of the pest and the consequent evolution of populations that are resistant to that insecticide or acaricide.

MoA, Target-site resistance and Cross-resistance

In the majority of cases, not only does resistance render the selecting compound ineffective, but it often also confers cross-resistance to other chemically related compounds. This is because compounds within a specific chemical group usually share a common target site within the pest, and thus share a common MoA. It is common for resistance to develop that is based on a genetic modification of this target site. When this happens, the interaction of the selecting compound with its target site is impaired and the compound loses its pesticidal efficacy. Because all compounds within the chemical subgroup share a common MoA, there is a high risk that the resistance that has developed will automatically confer cross resistance to all compounds in the same subgroup. It is this concept of cross-resistance within a family of chemically related insecticides or acaricides that is the basis of the IRAC MoA classification.



Use of alternations or sequences of different MoAs

The objective of successful Insecticide Resistance Management (IRM) is to prevent or delay the evolution of resistance to insecticides, or to help regain susceptibility in insect pest populations in which resistance has already arisen. Effective IRM is thus an important element in maintaining the efficacy of valuable insecticides. It is important to recognise that it is usually easier to proactively prevent resistance from occurring than it is to reactively regain susceptibility. Nevertheless, the IRAC MoA classification will always provide valuable guidance to the design of effective IRM strategies. Experience has shown that all effective insecticide or acaricide resistance management strategies seek to minimise the selection for resistance from any one

type of insecticide or acaricide. In practice, alternations, sequences or rotations of compounds from different MoA groups provide a sustainable and effective approach to IRM. This ensures that selection from compounds in any one MoA group is minimised. The IRAC classification in this document is provided as an aid to insecticide selection for these types of IRM strategies. Applications are often arranged into MoA spray windows or blocks that are defined by the stage of crop development and the biology of the pest(s) of concern. Local expert advice should always be followed with regard to spray windows and timings. Several sprays of a compound may be possible within each spray window, but successive generations of the pest should not be treated with compounds from the same MoA group. Visit www.irc-online.org for full information and publications available for downloading.

The Winkie Seedling Season 2011

*John Menzel,
Winkie, South Australia*

In this article John outlines the methodology he has employed in his breeding program. Editor

It all started back in July 2010 with the planting plan of the Patch.

My planting plan is my Breeding Plan and my basic guide is: put a compatible like type with a compatible like type and you will get a type you will like.

As an example:-

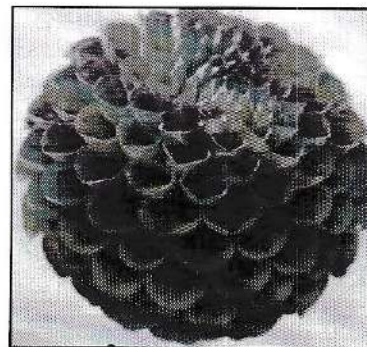
Taken from the Planting Plan of 2010

Devon Safari	Formby Crest
Devon Safari	Formby Crest
Devon Safari	Formby Crest
Devon Safari	Formby Crest
L'anresse	Formby Crest
L'anresse	Formby Crest
L'anresse	Formby Crest
L'anresse	Formby Crest
Ivanetti	Formby Crest
Ivanetti	Formby Crest

These cultivars were planted together because they have good stems, good petallage, good keeping qualities, good colour range, resistance to nematodes, and have good tuber production. This approach was applied to all size types.

The seed was collected from the bee lanes as it matured in April, May & June. I have to harvest the seed while still a little green provided the seeds are black. This is done before botrytis sets in and

*top to bottom: Formby Crest, Devon Safari,
L'anresse and Ivanetti*



destroys seed formation. The seed is then placed on paper towel and left until one of those cold nights in August when the good seeds are sorted from the husk material.

Individual seeds were sown into single 2 inch pots to reduce stress at planting time. This enables minimal root disturbance and germination rates to be monitored.

Germination Rates

Type	Percentage
Medium & Large Decorative	25
Medium & Large Cactus	30
Small & Miniature Decorative	60
Small & Miniature Cactus	35
Ball	50
Water Lily	25
Pompon	5

The seedlings were planted out in November and grew very well with only composted cow manure at a rate of 1 kg/sq m as a fertilizer. Sprays applied were for Red Spider (Two Spotted Mite) and a copper based spray for Botrytis.

An urgent application of "Tilt" was also applied for an explosive infestation of Powdery Mildew. I observed traces (2%) one evening, by next morning 20% of the plants were affected. When I sprayed that evening 90% of the plants were well affected. Interestingly, Kenora Jubilee is always the first cultivar to get infected making it an excellent Indicator Plant.

After sorting the seed there was a 3 L container of husks and seed that was not expected to grow. Since a section of bench, approximately 4 m in length was not being used I spread this trash in that area and covered it lightly with red gum sawdust. Seed from this section started to germinate after about ten days and continued to germinate over the next 12 weeks. As they germinated I potted 600 in total.

It was at this stage I remembered several past conversations with Gayner Parker, Bob Trotter, Ray Sellick and Frank Rossack. They all commented that early germinated seed was not as good as the later germinated seed.

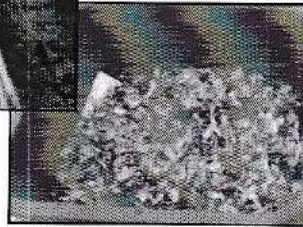
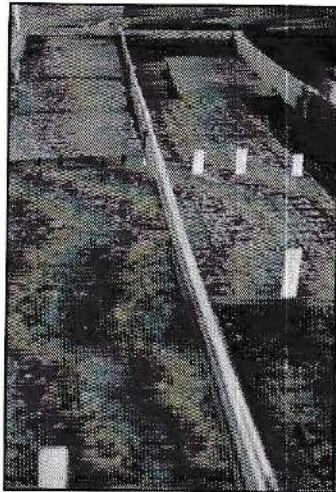
They all stated that the first seedlings to bloom were never any good. Curious to assess the validity of this idea, I now had a situation where I could separate the seedlings as they germinated and monitor the results. With the seedlings germinating over a 12 week period I was able to have ten trays that I labelled 1 – 12. These were planted out in that order and the results

Winkie Bee Lane



have been interesting. There has not been any noticeable difference in the quality and the number of fully double blooms from the early to the late germinated plants, but there was a noticeable difference in the number of quality blooms between those early and late to germinate.

Over the whole Seedling Patch there were approx. 95% of fully double blooms and the earlier germinated blooms were predominately Decorative and Ball type.



Seedlings that bloomed later in the season had a considerably higher percentage of Cactus types.

As the season progressed the seedlings which flowered later had a far higher percentage of quality blooms. This rate was very close to 30% with some of the seedlings showing exceptional potential.

This will only be conclusive when the seedlings are grown on next year. The aim is to grow four of each (two greens - two tubers) which should give a good assessment.



Collection of seedlings 20 March 2011

Dahlia Classification

Frank Turton,
Victoria

There has recently been renewed talk and discussion regarding proposed dahlia classification.

What do we mean by dahlia classification? Are they not classified already? Yes they are classified into different types and sizes by the ideals and Standards that have been set by the ADC over a number of years. They are not much different to those in the major dahlia countries which exhibit dahlias.

What then is the problem? The problem is that although we have classified the dahlia into all its different types and sizes, we then leave it up to the exhibitors and the judges to decide into which type and size individual blooms belong. This is very often quite difficult to do, even by quite experienced growers and judges. Needless to say it can cause confusion, especially among the newer exhibitors, who must be encouraged as much as possible.

We must also remember that the main reason for classifying dahlias on the show bench is so that 'like is being judged against like'. It was thought many years ago, that if types such as Cactus and Semi Cactus were exhibited together, the extra body in the Semi Cactus would give it an advantage. I believe that is the case, with the result that we do not see many Cactus dahlias on the show bench, especially in the Medium and Large sizes.

Deciding the size is quite easy. We have our rings to measure them. Deciding the type can be quite another proposition. I think we are all aware that it is very often quite difficult to decide whether a bloom is a Formal or Informal Decorative, a Cactus or Semi

Cactus, a Semi Decorative or a Ball. And I believe, because of this most show schedules combine Cactus and Semi Cactus as one, Informal and Formal Decorative as one instead of having separate classes for these types.

Do we need classes for more types in the show schedules? It may be of interest that the UK Dahlia Society is considering withdrawing the distinction between Formal and Informal Decorative dahlias and just exhibiting them as Decorative dahlias.

Is this a backward step? Among the many opponents of classification, the main reason given is the variations caused by differences in weather conditions over Australia. However, I believe the main difference caused by the weather variation, is in the size of the varieties and I do not think that the position that we have at present, where blooms are shown in the size class that they fit, needs to be altered.

I believe that if a decision was made to make a classification list based on **form** only, that this could be achieved with goodwill from all States. Such a list should be made as simple as possible, and extra information such as raiser, date of release, colour, etc are unnecessary.

Updated every two years by a panel consisting of a member from each state, such a list should contain varieties that are currently available and in general usage. There would not be a need to publish a full list every time, just an update. Varieties that are not listed in the current edition would be exhibited as at present until the next list is finalised.

Trash to Treasure

Malcolm Keller,
Crafers, South Australia

In the last edition of Tuber Talk produced for the South Australian Dahlia Society I explained how we had diverted our midweek champions from the trash bin to the Hahndorf Fruit and Veg shop where they are sold as bunches of cut flowers.

I also pointed out that we needed to increase the colour range and number of Balls and Small Decoratives that we grew. Both of these changes were achieved to a large extent, but it did not guarantee that they would all be blooming at the same time. Nevertheless many bunches containing *Jomanda*, *Marys Jomanda*, *Ivanetti*, *Formby Crest*, *Trengrove Millennium* and *Formby Pearl* were

produced. These bunches of Decoratives continued to sell quickly.

According to our planning that would have been the end of the story, but every good story has a twist. In this case it was a phone call from a florist in desperate need of two buckets of white dahlias. That was easy and the flowers did not even require bunching. As we were bunching flowers the following week we commented to each other how much easier it would be to sell these to a florist and not have to go to the trouble of bunching, which is really a two person operation.

A few days later the phone rang again. This time another florist in desperate need of

orange and white flowers for a wedding. Her usual source was unable to meet the order. Fortunately we had *Jomanda* with quite a few blooms, one or two of *Bracken Sarah* and *Nationwide* and numerous *Formby Crest* that would blend with orange. When combined with the white of *Karras 150*, *Devon Citation* and *Formby Alpine* the order had been filled. Gail, the florist even arranged for the flowers to be collected on Friday morning.

That weekend the rain set in and we looked through the windows at the flowers drooping

beneath a load of water. Fortunately, the weather had been accurately forecast some days earlier and most of the plants had been retied so that little damage was occurring to the bushes. By Tuesday morning we had recorded more than 60 mm rain. Again the phone rang. This time it was florist Sally. She had been ringing all the florists in Adelaide to find yellow dahlias. Her

order for a wedding on Saturday could not be met. Gail had passed on our phone number and she was running out of options.

During our phone conversation I pointed out that it was still raining and our ability to supply would depend on how much damage the weather had caused. We suggested that since she only lived a few kilometres away she come and have a look for herself that evening. Christine and I would be at Hahndorf organising 'Night Owl Bowls', but she was free to have a look and assess suitability of the blooms for herself.

As it transpired that visit was to be a turning point. 'Love at first sight!' Sally was blown away by her visit, and was still euphoric when



she rang on Wednesday morning. Not only would she take the yellows, but she would also like to take a selection of other dahlias as well. So began our mutually beneficial relationship. Sally has placed a permanent order for Tuesday evenings and added to that with a number of desperation requests.

We thought there were a number of jobs that could be full on and demanding, but being a florist had not been on that list. Weddings can be very rewarding for a florist, but we were about to discover that they can also be very stressful. In the week following our introduction, Sally had ordered kale (purple kohlrabi) from

interstate for wedding bouquets and floral arrangements. When they arrived on Wednesday morning they were grey with a touch of pale pink instead of the expected purple. The bride was devastated! While the bride was in the florist shop crying with disappointment,

she saw a bloom of *Ivanetti*. That was the colour she wanted! What sort of flower is that? A phone call or two later and a

combination of *Ivanetti*, *Downham Royal* and *Willo Night* solved the problem. Similarly, the bride who was looking for champagne colours saw *Aitara Success* and was delighted that we could supply. Yet another bride saw a



bloom of *Figurine* in the shop. She wanted 50 for her wedding in mid-April!

It was late in the season, more rain and an order of 50 *Figurine* blooms was out of the question. Maybe a couple blooms for a bouquet. What about the soft pinks of

Christie Galah, *Tyalla Botannica*, supplemented with *Formby Pride* for the bridesmaids and table arrangements? With a little floral counselling the bride was convinced. Another order was for a husband, whose wife's favourite colour was orange. Ten long stemmed blooms were required. The order was made up with five *Jomanda*, three *Bracken Sarah* and two *Gateshead Festival*. The basis of an impressive arrangement.

Word travels quickly, and in the few weeks we have been supplying Sally she has established that there is keen demand for the dahlia as a cut flower. She displays them in her shop and sells many in ones and twos to local residents and as described above there are the brides,

husbands and others who discover the dahlia is a stunning flower and just what they need. Other florists have also discovered that Sally is on



a winner and want to know who is supplying her with dahlias. Previously Sally had sourced dahlias from interstate, but they suffer damage in transit. Sometimes she has had to discard as much as fifty percent of her order, not to mention time spent trying to straighten

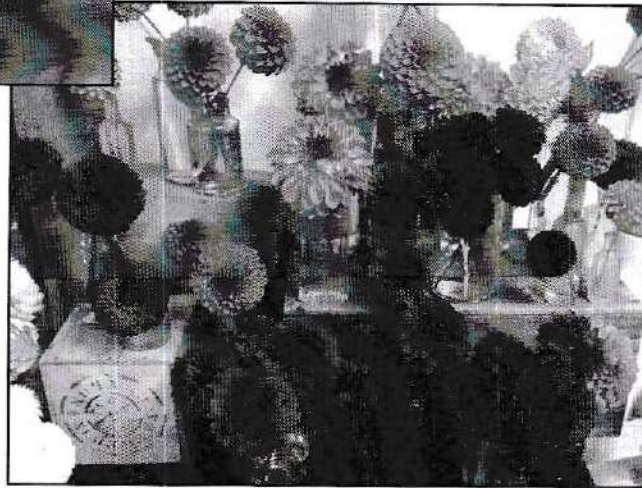


so if you are interested in supplying, make sure you grow a few extra. As for the rest, it seems every bride has a different colour scheme in mind.

Traditionally Dahlia Societies have promoted the flower through shows, but there are few places where they can be purchased. By making an arrangement with a retail outlet the dahlia can be promoted much more and those mid-week champions can be turned from Trash to Treasure.

and rearrange distorted petals. By supplying quality blooms we both have a winning arrangement.

If Sally's judgement is correct there is growing demand for dahlias and they may be the next big thing for weddings. White is used in just about all arrangements



Dahlias in a bridal bouquet and in the shop

An Aussie Perspective

National Dahlia Society Championship Show Shepton Mallet

*Steven Cox,
Victoria*

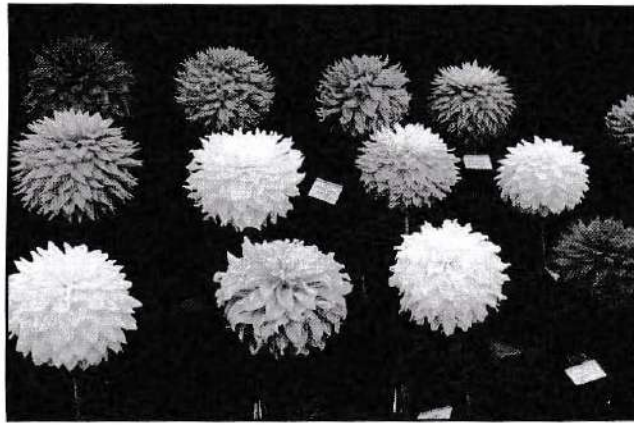
September 2010 was our third visit to the UK to see the NDS Championship Show. This year I had the pleasure of meeting and chatting to Ted Collins and Bill Mark, who were both interested in my society which is The National Dahlia Society of Victoria Inc., and how we cope with growing dahlias in our hotter, drier climate.

Even on my third visit the first thing that stands out is the size; not only the blooms, but the hall itself. This is a huge show, as a National Show should be, and something that everyone associated with, should be proud of. Even though we were told the numbers were down due to the bad weather earlier and some of the display

area has gone to floral art, the National Show is still a very impressive event.

The show is like ours in that it calls for many multi vase/ multi type entries, except ours calls for vases of three in the Miniature and Small sizes whereas in the UK they call for five blooms and vases of single blooms in the Medium, Large and Giant sizes. We also don't have to have foliage attached but you can use foliage to dress your exhibits.

12 Giants - what a sight, *pictured top right*. The size of the blooms in the UK is also something special. Due to the cooler, wetter climate where the blooms can develop on the bush they are so full and round compared to ours. This is very evident when looking at the giant blooms. Unless we cover our giant blooms (with shadecloth and umbrellas in some



The classes that call for nine or 12 giant blooms are a sight to behold. We don't see too many giants at our shows these days and to walk along the displays was an eye opener. The Terry Clark is always a good class to see and this year no exception, although my old mate Dave Spencer got beaten again

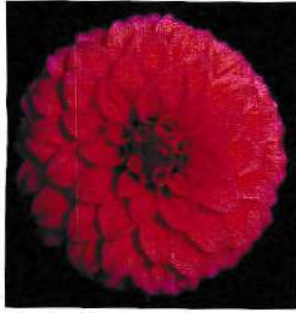
Some new classes that I saw for the first time were the Small Growers Championship, which I think is a good idea and I also saw a class (at Harrogate) that called for a vase of three different cultivars of the one type. This class attracted a lot of public interest.



instances) the back of the bloom is dying off before the front has come out. The general size of all the blooms is also a bit bigger than ours.

Another thing that is noticeable is how the top exhibitors use "banker varieties" eg Kenora Challenger, Mary's Jomanda etc. We tend to grow "less of more" than the growers seem to do in the UK. I think this is due to the fact that our housing blocks are very small now and most of us just don't have the room for large numbers of plants.

Bracken Cultivars



Bracken Rocket



Bracken Enfield



Bracken Blush



Bracken Minerva



Bracken Catherine



Bracken Camelot



Bracken Royale



Bracken Sequel



Bracken Heritage



Bracken Solo



Bracken Ebony



Bracken Symphony

Bracken Parents



top to bottom, l to r: Wildwood Marie, Formby Frost, Bracken Nikolaus, Sylvia Craig Hunter plant and petals, Bracken Jupiter, Figurine & Downs Hazel 39

From a Bud a Passion Grows

Steven Wedd,

Murwillumbah, New South Wales

The Coorabell Flower Show has a proud history of more than 50 years. As children we were amazed at the size and brightness of the dahlias. The main exhibitors were family (Dad's brother and sister) and well known local identities. I acquired tubers from my uncle and started growing them in Copmanhurst (near Grafton) about 15 years ago, having to travel two hours after work to get them to the Friday night show. My brother Bruce, who was also a bit of a gardener beforehand, decided he would grow some at the farm at Coorabell to compete against me.

In 2001 I transferred to Murwillumbah and bought a house with limited gardening space. At this stage it appeared more sensible to grow the dahlias as a family venture with my brother, as well as a sister (Carolyn), who used her developing computer skills to record types and cultivars on a spreadsheet as we acquired them.



Around 2003 Carolyn and I attended the Gardening Australia Expo in Brisbane, not to see dahlias, but because we were interested in gardening generally. We were amazed to see such beautiful dahlias at the Qld Dahlia Society stall in April, as ours were well and truly

finished by then. We spoke to the then president, Don Litster, joined the society and fronted up to the State Show at



Mt Coot-tha the following March with 12 blooms. We had limited success in the Novice section. The following year we entered quite a few blooms at the show at Hawkin's Nursery in Chandler in the first week in March.

By this stage I had acquired a few skills in stopping, pruning and disbudding. We were successful beyond all expectations and so entered many more blooms in the Open Section at the State Show the following fortnight, with some success. The following few seasons saw our success rate skyrocket, bringing home many of the trophies and plaques on offer at the State Show. We attended more shows and scored a number of grand champions in the process.

The bug had really begun to bite at this stage and, having ample Long Service Leave up my sleeve, I decided to take all of 1st Term 2008 off and spend more time in the patch. This also allowed attending the shopping centre shows and agricultural shows which were held on Friday/Saturday. This meant 10 consecutive weekends of dahlia showing! I did the same with my LSL in 2010.

From the very first meeting with Don at the Expo to the current day my family has been overwhelmed by the welcoming, friendly way we "Mexicans" have been treated by the members

of the QDS. In the early days we were the 'new blood', something all garden groups are keen to encourage. We received copious amounts of advice on selecting cultivars, growing and tending plants and selecting blooms for the bench. As our success at the shows soared you might have expected a little less support from our fellow competitors, but nothing could have been further from the truth. The skilful and experienced advice from Col McLaughlin, Nev Naumann, Vin Charlton and others kept coming, in spite of taking the trophies back south of the border!

The degree of success has diminished somewhat in recent years due mainly to some very stiff competition from Stanthorpe. This became the inspiration to strive harder and I'm sure has boosted the overall quality and number of blooms at Queensland shows in recent years. There's nothing like a bit of healthy competition!

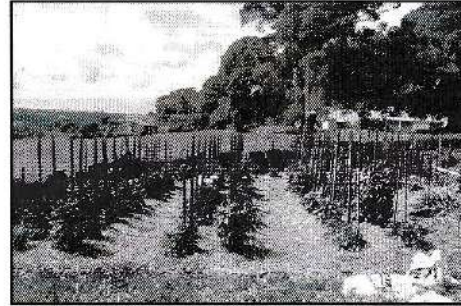
Social Aspects

Competition is one aspect of growing dahlias for exhibition, but the social side is vitally important as well. Through the dahlia season we find ourselves spending a lot of time with fellow members of the Dahlia Society. On show day there's the setting up, the morning teas when it's all done and the detailed discussion with fellow competitors over where the judge got it wrong! There's also the more general conversation when on duty sitting around the display at the shopping centres. But QDS took the social side of dahlia growing to new heights when in 2008, the Stanthorpe growers decided to hold a field weekend. We visited three exhibitors' gardens and were treated to country hospitality (with great food) that had to be seen to be believed. We all appreciated the efforts of the Murphy's, the Balch's and the Burnell's for a memorable weekend. Well - this then set a trend for other dahlia growing areas to follow. 2009 saw the Caboolture region turn on a very impressive field weekend as well, visiting the McLaughlin's, the Charlton's and the Beender's gardens. You know how we all love a 'sticky-beak' in other people's plots and again the hospitality (and the food) were outstanding. By this time only a few QDS members had ventured south to Coorabell

(overlooking Byron Bay) but clearly most were interested in where these 'Mexicans' were growing their prize winning blooms. Col asked if we would hold a field day so in 2010 we did, and being the only exhibitor in the region, didn't know if people would come so far to see just one garden - but they did!

The Dahlia Season - Coorabell style

We all talk about the dahlia season but I think this is a myth. There doesn't seem to be very many weeks in the year when there isn't something dahlia related happening.



Garden Preparation

September starts with digging and fertilizing the beds. We have two main plots plus a small isolated 'breeding' bed. The original plot is across the road on the eastern side, and gets blasted by strong sea breezes and south easterlies. It has been the vegetable garden for about 50 years. The more recent plot is behind the house on the western side and gets blasted by the south westerlies and westerlies. This actually spreads the risk (not planned) as a bad weather event will have about half the plants on the protected side.

After viewing Barry Murphy's plot at the first Stanthorpe field weekend I was impressed at how accessible the plants were when in single rows. We had always grown them in doubles. The following season we changed many of the beds to singles, at the same time changing the direction to allow for better drainage. The double beds hold 26 to 30 plants, while the

singles hold 14 to 16. At this time cow manure, pelleted chicken manure, blood and bone, dolomite and sulphate of potash are incorporated. Late September (school holidays) completes soil preparation (usually 350 – 400 spots plus seedling beds) and the entire dahlia area is mulched with sugar cane - 80 to 100 bales to keep the soil cool and suppress weed growth.

Computer Recording

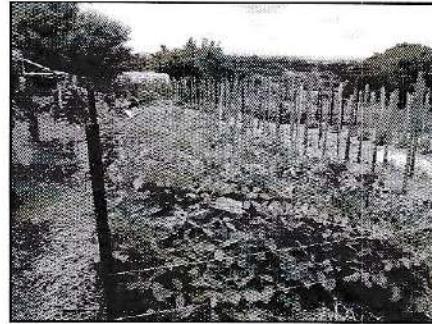
Once the number of spots has been determined we prioritize the types and cultivars. Large types are allocated 5 – 8 spots as they produce far less blooms. Highly successful smaller Decoratives and Cactus also get about 5 spots each, while the best Waterlilies, Collerettes and Poms get 4. Those with limited classes such as balls, singles, anemones get 2 spots, as do those that we like to grow, but rarely make the champions table (there's still room for sentimentality!). As they are planted Carolyn draws up a map of the beds and records varieties.

Seedlings

Seeds are planted into seed trays in June. Three years ago we obtained from Theo, seeds that he collected from his garden (bee pollinated). We kept 5, still have 4 and Theo named one this year after it gained two championships. Two years ago Col gave us seeds he collected from his plot. We planted about 400, kept 18 and still have 5. Last year Col again supplied us with seed and about 320 were planted. We're keeping 15.

We then decided to expand our horizons and save seed ourselves. Hand pollinating, although giving a much higher success rate due to parent selection, is not really an option for us at the moment. I'm not there during the week and my brother hasn't got the time. We decided to try the isolated patch approach and planted five different Large Decoratives there, hoping the bees (there was a hive nearby) wouldn't stray to the main gardens. The strike rate wasn't good, yielding 16 plants and keeping only 1 Medium Decorative and one Large Cactus! Nevertheless

we tried again this season with Large and Medium Cactus – 6 different varieties. I've collected a reasonable supply of seeds so time will tell. If we ever get something worth naming we've decided to use 'Coorabell' followed by the names of various family members. Seedlings are planted out into prepared and mulched beds when about 10 cm high. We have the space and so give them about 25 cm to 30 cm each way. As they grow, (and don't they grow! – I wish we could get the same vigour from all plants.), the internal ones support each other and the outside ones are supported by twine threaded through steel pickets around the perimeter.



Taking Cuttings

Until a couple of years ago we planted only tubers, other than pot tubers given to us. The latter appeared less likely to rot so I decided to start taking greens. A 50/50 mix of washed river sand and perlite was used and a rooting hormone applied. They were placed in the new orchid house where climate can be more controlled (it has a plastic roof), and the strike rate was good. We often found the clumps shooting too early for the October planting so I thought taking greens might stall things a little.

Unfortunately last year they were slow in shooting so the boxes were put out in the garden and the sawdust watered (light, warmth and moisture). Only a small proportion were kick started by this, or so we thought. As it turned out the crested pigeons and doves were

picking off most of the shoots before we realised. Also last year was one of the wettest springs we've had, so many clumps started rotting because the sawdust didn't drain well enough. A lesson learned – we'll never do that again! The whole journey is about learning what works in your area. It all worked out well in the end with few total losses, and these were compensated for by other growers at the Christmas party where tubers are brought and distributed. Once the cuttings had rooted they were transferred into a small pot with a quality potting mix and kept in the shade house. After a few weeks they were moved outside to be sun hardened, and were then either planted in the garden if needed or repotted into a larger pot and grown on as pot tubers. Some of these ended up in the garden in late December to replace losses. A few hundred grew on as pot tubers.

Planting

Early October sees us planting the first tubers, usually those that were ordered from catalogues. All new cultivars are given a number and are recorded on a spreadsheet by Carolyn. Lists can then be printed according to cultivar, type or number. The numbering system is based on the year of purchase and the order in which they arrived eg all 2009 purchases are nine hundred and something, while last year's start with a zero. The supports are a mixture of wooden stakes and steel pickets, the latter making it easy to attach the aluminium name tags which aren't affected by the sun (box of 1000). These tags have the cultivar's name and our number, and are stored in envelopes and reused each year.

Maintenance

As the plants break through the surface an old pot with the base cut out is placed over it since our local pigeons and doves love picking off new shoots. The pots are removed before the plant gets too big and plants "stopped" when around 20 cm high. They are pruned to 4, 6 or 8 side shoots depending on bloom size. At about 30 – 40 cm a mixed fertilizer is applied. Given that spring is traditionally our driest season we have to water occasionally. Water is

probably every dahlia grower's biggest problem, and we are no different, except for us the problem is too much. We live in one of the highest rainfall areas in NSW and a week with over 300 mm is not a rarity. Fortunately our deep red soil is relatively free draining – to a point. In recent years things have gotten a little boggy. The beds are raised and on a slight slope, so we don't lose many clumps to rotting. As the plants grow they are tied up with baling twine which is purchased in large balls. The heavier pruning that has come with experience has made this task a little easier. Foliar feeding starts when the first buds appear. We currently work on a 3 week cycle – Kelpac (a seaweed extract), Supafish (a fish emulsion) and a soluble chemical fertilizer high in potassium. These are applied with a watering can and we do this throughout the show season.

Not only do we have a beautiful climate for humans to live in, but all manner of creatures great and small like to call north east NSW home. Grasshoppers and monolepta beetles enjoy dining on blooms just before a show, as do a range of caterpillars. Red spider mite and more recently broad mites also have their impact. We use Webzone and Bugmaster Flowable for caterpillars and Acromite for broadmite. In a climate so wet and humid the dahlias are paradise for fungus diseases such as powdery mildew, where Wettable Sulfur comes in handy. This year we've also used Agri-fos for root rot. A fairly comprehensive spraying regime is essential for both the prevention and cure of these ailments.

Cutting

As some cultivars flower 8 weeks after planting we find ourselves cutting blooms from early January. This is done daily to unburden the plants, and flowers are placed into buckets and sold by the roadside on an honesty system. We charge \$10.00 for a full bucket and people are so overwhelmed with what they get, there is virtually no theft and some people pay extra! We do not live on a main road but find many of our customers drive out of their way to see if any flowers are there. Most become regulars and eagerly await the season each year. It is not uncommon to be left letters or notes thanking us for the joy we bring to people's

lives, as well as stopping to tell us in person. Selling the flowers has done a lot to promote the dahlia in the local region. We have also provided the flowers for quite a few weddings over the years, as well as birthday parties and the odd funeral. We have also donated flowers to the Red Cross to make a dahlia wreath for the Bangalow ANZAC service for a number of years now.

Particularly early in the season some cultivars have very thick stems, and the cut can leave a gaping hole up to 3 cm in diameter. With our high rainfall this allows the whole stem to fill with water which quickly rots that whole branch, and sometimes the clump. We cut squares of foil and press them around the cut. Time consuming but effective.

The Show Season

As it is for everyone, getting ready for a show is a hectic time. When I take Long Service Leave things are not so rushed. This year I didn't and so I arrive at the farm at 5 pm on the Friday



afternoon. A few years ago we started picking then, and found we were packing the ute after

midnight, sometimes for a 5.30 am start. Not always conducive for safe driving.

More recently my brother would cut on Friday morning (after milking) and would enlist the help of a neighbour to carry the buckets of blooms to the shed. The selection process could then start earlier, although still finishing around 11.00 pm. In our early showing days we would sort in the lounge room. We then moved to the garage with poor lighting, suspending a brighter light from the rafters. With the construction of the new shed (NOT for the dahlia obsession) and then having good lighting connected, we can set up 5 tables which allow room to move. All this has led to a much better working space, and the good lighting doesn't hurt the diminishing eyesight.

We grow all types and usually exhibit in every class in the schedule, often with multiple entries. Plugging the blooms with the plastic tubing was the best invention, saving a lot of time when exhibiting between 100 and 150 bottles. We generally work through each section of the schedule but not in order. Cactus and Waterlilies are done first before they close for the night. Fortunately daylight saving gives us light until 8 o'clock. Championship contenders are put aside as we go. When plugged and labelled the bottles are packed snugly into holes cut in mattress foam inside styrene boxes and plastic crates. These boxes are then carefully organised in the ute to avoid rubbing in transit. My brother can't attend many of the shows due to farm commitments so the task of putting so many blooms on the bench is demanding. Fortunately there is always a band of Qld Society members on hand to help carry the boxes to the venue, and to put them on the bench.

This season I attended seven shows, although our blooms were entered in 10! Our "seconds" were collected for another Casino Show where we were awarded Champion Bloom, and rated a mention in Gardening Australia Magazine. Limited blooms were also 'relayed' to Toowoomba and Ipswich via Don (because I was at work).

Digging up and Storing

Fortunately the dahlias die back over a period of 8 to 10 weeks, as digging up and packing away 400 clumps in a short time frame, while working full time, would be a bit demanding. Normally the first few are dug up in late May, with increasing numbers throughout June and the majority in early to mid July. Any that are still green by late July are dug up anyway before they start shooting.

Once dug the clumps are washed with a hose and packed in sawdust into polystyrene boxes. The boxes have the cultivar name and are then placed on specially

built shelves which occupy an entire wall of the shed. We owe thanks to a gardening friend with good building skills.

Cultivar Selection and ordering

Each year we have purchased up to sixty or more new (and some repeats) cultivars from various distributors down south. Selection is usually based on what has been winning around the country (as printed in the various state society publications) as well as the descriptions from catalogues. We discovered fairly early that neither of these selection criteria were necessarily of great value when buying from southern climes and then growing them in the sub tropics. Champions from Tasmania would not look anything like the pictures or descriptions. At first we thought it was us, but found that no one here had success with certain cultivars, that were very successful in temperate climates. Over the years the culling rate of southern bred dahlias has been

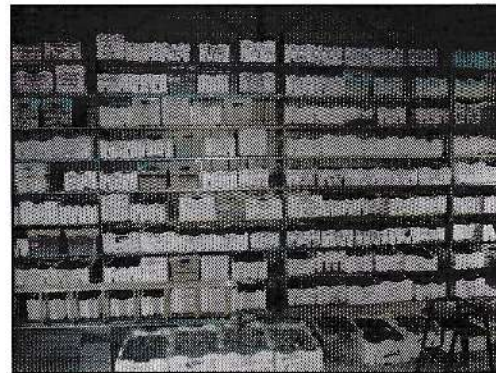
extremely high. On the other hand those bred in Queensland (primarily Bracken's) were the most successful, promoting the idea that growing seedlings would be a better way to go.

In Conclusion

Most of the people here today are only too aware of the commitment of time and energy

needed to exhibit high quality dahlias. As I tell people who ask about these most impressive blooms, anyone can grow a dahlia, but to grow them well doesn't just happen. We have learned so much over almost a decade but also realise

there's still so much more to learn. The electronic age has allowed growers to share their knowledge and expertise more readily than ever before. Here's hoping that sufficient new recruits join our obsession so that the passion may continue for decades to come.



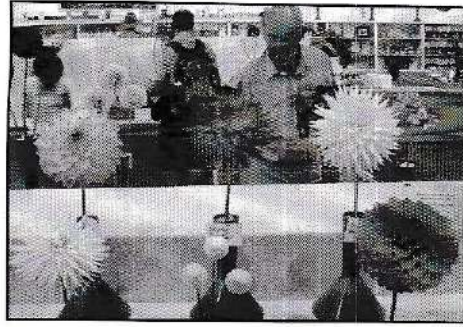
Judging

*John Woodfield,
Hughes, Canberra*

This is a brief look at my experiences as a judge and a quick look at our Dahlia Standards, remembering of course that old saying, "The Good Lord produced the flowers but the Bad Devil produced the judge".

My judging introduction goes back beyond flowers to around 1960 when I retired from playing rugby for Queanbeyan Whites and ACT and took up refereeing to give back some of the enjoyment I had received over the years. What a mistake! Suddenly everything you do is wrong, at least according to all the mums and dads on the sideline. Anyhow this apprehension is eventually overcome when you realise that without you there is really no game. My refereeing would continue for some years until our boys started to play and other interests started to take up more time. My last official game would be the ACT Rep side against John Thornett's Barbarians so this was a good way to bow out. What this refereeing had done was give one confidence in making decisions.

From the mid 1960s we started to show flowers and vegetables around the local shows with some small success, and in 1970 I would join the then Southern Tablelands County Council and soon found myself doing some more judging as an electrical inspector. Having to make some hard and quick decisions regardless of what other people might think, or want, was to help later on as a judge at local shows.



Soon, as we moved around the small shows I would be asked to judge some sections where the judge had not arrived. This was mainly in vegetables and fruit and that was no problem, as my early introduction to shows had been through those sections and I felt quite confident of getting most of it right. That was until we landed one day at Yass with our dahlias and roses and were greeted with the question, "Will you judge the vegetables, as the judge is sick?" No worries at all, that should be okay, and was until I was confronted with no less than ten lots of 12 walnuts. None of those small shows had nuts in their show schedules. I did not grow nuts and had not worried looking at the vegetable schedule or standards for nuts as I had come only to show our flowers. This proved to be a good lesson in having to make a decision, even if you really are not sure what you are doing. Thankfully common sense prevailed. First I had a feel of them all for weight and broke one in each group picking the lightest one in each exhibit. That made it easy as more than half actually had no nuts in the shell.

All this was good grounding as we became more involved with exhibiting all types of

flowers and I was asked by the Judging Committee of the Horticultural Society of Canberra to get more involved and particularly look at becoming a judge in daffodils as there was a shortage of judges in that area. With the help of a lot of people and some study of what I was to realise was the standard expected for exhibition daffodils, not just my idea of what is right or wrong, I proceeded to be the accepted main judge.

What this brought out was the fact that all the flowers we were showing had standards we were meant to be striving to achieve. As most of the main exhibitors in our area had come from Victoria we found they had been looking at their own standards as far as judging was concerned. But as we started showing further away, particularly with dahlias we found those same standards were in fact slightly different and I guess this was when I realised that if I was to become a serious judge one had better get a copy of all these standards from different places and further one's knowledge. The more one studied the different standards the more variations were discovered. As a result the HSC Inc produced our own standards book for exhibitors taking most of our standards from NSW and sharing ideas with other states in the process.

The greatest asset to these standards was when the then Australian Dahlia Conference produced a standard that all states were happy to accept. There would

always be differences in the way we stage flowers in schedules and of course this still is the case, but at least there was general agreement on standards of the flowers. As time has gone by, my judging has continued in many avenues of horticulture. Judging dahlias at the Royal Easter Show was among the early major appointments with the late Bruce Hannel and Bill Moons as senior judges. I was to learn a lot, as it was the first time I was to judge under open judging with the general public watching every move.



Daffodil judging has taken us as far as Launceston in Tasmania in 1995 to judge in the Australasian Daffodil Championships in the seedling classes and again in Bowral in 1999 as senior Australian judge with international judges from UK and USA. Locally we have travelled to many areas judging many flowers,

vegetables/fruit and even Garden Competitions in Wollongong for a week. It is interesting how you have to adapt to the different schedules as you move about. Many show committees have not changed any thing for years and resent being asked to catch up. Some of our more interesting challenges have been at places like Batlow where the night before you find you are judging everything, including Floral Art. Other challenges have included judging vegetables at Bega, where the best early season pumpkins may number anywhere up to 60 or 70 and watermelons in something like 8 different classes and collections. Those watermelons are a challenge as there

can be quite a number in each class and they need to be cut. Cutting finds out a lot of things including depth of rind and flesh, colour, ripeness and texture, very much like point scoring flowers for comparison with each other.

Two things I try to avoid if possible are orchids and bonsai. I do find it much easier to judge those classes where we have the experience of actually growing and showing the same plants. Garden judging is much easier in areas where the climate is similar to that in your own area, as you have better knowledge of timing of plants.

That brings us to judging our beloved dahlias. Almost all my dahlia judging takes place in the area from Sydney and to the south, where most show societies use the standards recommended by the Dahlia Society of NSW/ACT Inc with some variations in some smaller shows. It is recommended that all Championships and Champions be point judged. While there are judges and exhibitors that still do not like point judging I am completely in favour of it and really think it is the best way of comparing the best flowers on the day. We have rules that can be used in case of tied scores in championships and individual champions. These include giving each entry in championships a score out of ten before we start to point score the entries and in the event of tied scores these points are added to decide the result. Tied scores for champions are separated by the flower having the highest points awarded in order of merit of form - condition - stem - colour - size - staging. Seldom are points still equal after this, but if that occurs the judge's choice shall take effect.

I like to judge championship entries along each row in turn rather than each complete



entry at a time. I feel this is fairer to all exhibitors so that any one entry is not judged all first or last. I judge the front row first followed by the second and then the third. Seldom do we see more than three rows or tiers. This way if the judge or steward comes in contact with a flower bringing vases forward to judge, those flowers have already been awarded their points. The only flowers outside championships that are normally point scored are those to be considered for champions or best in show. I point score these where they are situated rather than taking them near those already pointed.

As already stated the Australian Standards set for judging dahlias I believe are the best for any of the flowers I judge. Having said this there are always things we do not always agree about and I guess the new Dahlia Society of Australia will soon have to think about reviewing and updating those standards.

Having been a NSW/ACT representative of the last committee that put together the 1998 Standards I realise the work that needs to be put in to achieve a good and fair result. Before the 1998 final meeting each participating state had already formed their opinion of what was needed in

regards each type. To have come up with the result achieved in the short time I think was very good. However, I think the final meeting would have been better if it could have been held at a time when we still had flowers to actually compare. I would encourage those people burdened with the job next time to at least have one meeting where there are flowers available. This will be both hard to arrange and expensive, but very important so we can fully understand each other's point of view and ideas.

The following are just some of my personal thoughts on the present standards and are not those of our state body, just some of the things that we have met and think about as we exhibit or judge. I will comment basically as the existing book is written.

General Introduction: Covers most important aspects that apply to all flowers and stops a lot of things being repeated with each separate type. It may need some update or rewrite but I find it quite good.

Allocation of Points: It can be argued for change by some people for example that the emphasis on stem is too high and more should be added to condition or colour. I have no problem with the present system.

Sizes: Seems to work well. I believe that Miniatures should have a minimum of say 50 mm or even back to 70 mm or 90 mm. This would allow thought for classes for the popular micro or bedding dahlias. Should there be a preferred size within each size group?

Decorative Dahlia: Without going into all details some things that come to mind. There is a requirement for Informal Types to have a cone centre but no requirement for the centre of Formal or Semi Decorative types. The repeating of requirements for depth could be included

in the general introduction for all Decorative types, Cactus, Semi Cactus, and Fimbriated Types as they all have the same requirement. Is that requirement for two thirds of diameter too high, should it be only at least half the diameter or have the word *preferably* added to the wording? Is the requirement for twisted or wavy florets of great importance for informal types? What about some of the good introductions where the florets are flat rather than wavy or twisted. Semi



Decorative type was introduced at the end of our discussions in 1998, by I think SA, and maybe we did not do it complete justice as there still seems to be some uncertainty on some occasions. Is the requirement for pointed florets important and should the mature florets start to flatten as they recurve towards the stem to help distinguish them from ball type?

Waterlily Dahlia: The words (and face view should be circular in outline and regular in arrangement) are already covered in the general introduction and left in by mistake last time. Other than that I have little to offer.

Semi Cactus and Cactus Dahlia: Seems to work pretty well although I sometimes wonder if we require the distinction as

many so called Cactus often do not overlap more than half or should we just judge them as Semi Cactus. More importance could be given on the requirement of the actual overlapping edges of each floret not just some of them.

Exhibition Cactus Dahlia: There will always be discussion on whether the name requires a change. I am too old to want to change it! I have no problems with this standard.

Fimbriated Cactus Dahlia: At the moment we have the general requirements to match Cactus or Semi Cactus and then



Christie Fuzz

start to qualify some of those points, I think we would be better rewriting this standard and incorporating it all together rather than referring back. Example: Bloom should be fully double. The centre should be as high as the surrounding face florets, preferably be as cone shaped as possible and may have a slightly brush effect as the florets start to unfurl. Fimbriation should divide the tip of each floret into two or more points and give a splayed or spreading effect. Fimbriation should occur on all florets and should

preferably be even on all mature florets. Fimbriation should be at least 10 mm long on miniature blooms and then in proportion to the size of the bloom. Depth of bloom should be at least two thirds, but not more than its diameter. Rows of florets should radiate from the centre with even space between rows. Do we need more recommendations on the length of the fimbriation for each size?

Fimbriated Dahlia – other types: I do not think this needs changing if we leave it in the standards.

Ball Dahlia: I do not have much trouble with this standard. Maybe it could be rewritten, but I think the meaning of requirements is pretty clear.

Pompon Dahlia: Again I do not have much trouble with the existing text. I just question the fact that florets should be



Noreen

uniform in size throughout the bloom? This is never the case as florets increase in size as they radiate from the centre in all pompons that I have had anything to do with. Maybe the wording should read as close to uniform as possible. Also add tips or edge of florets should be rounded or blunt.



Kens Gala

Collerette Dahlia: I think in general most important aspects and ideas are covered but needs to be rewritten. For example I believe there is only one row of florets with inner and outer parts not inner and outer florets. To make wording uniform with all eight floret types the wording should be florets must number eight.

Single Dahlia: Again I have little trouble with the existing, but think we may be should look at the centre stamens to be on a flat plain not in domed form like an Anemone type. From my observation the stamens in singles also come out of tubes.

Anemone Dahlia: Here I think we need to look at a rewrite. In the side view it is the centre florets that should be dome shaped not the whole bloom. The outer florets should be behind the centre florets and should they be on a flat plain behind the centre or just be flat florets that can reflex away from the centre florets. Some clarification is needed as regards the size of tubes and stamens or no stamens. I find some of what I think are good Anemones are regarded by others as Singles. It is here that I think having a range of flowers would be very helpful when making final wording rather than using photos. May be

I am completely wrong and once stamens predominate from tubes they should be classed as singles.

Orchid Dahlia: Here again I think it must be eight involute florets not *should be*. I also think florets should all come to a point and be evenly arranged around the central disc.

Stellar Dahlia: Here I think we should qualify whether or not the reference to involute florets means not completely closed and overlapping like an orchid type or are expected to just have edges all turned up. Florets should all come to a point.

Peony Dahlia: Not enough of these in our area for me to comment. Maybe we have thrown a lot of these away.

Miscellaneous Dahlia: Nothing to say except thank goodness, I have never had to make any decisions and do we need to include it.

Dahlia Stem Requirements: Here again I feel little change is needed except maybe the preference for full stem rather than stem and stalk. The length of stem needs qualifying whether it is to the centre of the bloom as we interpret it or to the bottom of the bloom as I believe some would like it.

Condition and Colour Requirements: All this needs to be looked at and maybe move some wording from faults or leave as is.

The rest of the book: I have not tried to go through all the rest as I think we need to decide how much of it we require and bring it into line with the standards we finally decide on. This area of the standards was not looked at on the last couple of issues to my knowledge because of time and was left as is and maybe does not reflect all of our ideas. I am not greatly in favour of the section Faults to be Penalised but believe it would be better to just have lists of major and minor faults and let the judge at the time allocate the points. As long as judges are consistent with decisions there should be no problems.

More Thoughts on Standards

One of the reasons given for disbanding the ADC and establishing a new constitution for the DSA was that we need to re-examine the current standards. Set out below are several suggestions which might warrant consideration. Editor

Charlie Smith, Tasmania, suggests the following two changes to the Standards

- a) That the name Exhibition Cactus be changed to Quill Cactus. For some time we have been concerned that the current name is confusing to new growers. On many occasions we have explained that it is the name of a type, not what you do with it. For other types the name describes the petallage of the bloom and this makes it easier for a new grower to understand.
- b) That the Ball dahlia be allowed to sit on top of the stem like a Pompon dahlia. We have staged some Ball dahlias like this and they make a good display and there are some new varieties that are prone to sit on top. We could try this for a period of 3-5 seasons, allowing the blooms to be exhibited with no penalty at 45-90 degrees.

Our suggestions are not intended to make change for changes sake. Let us try something new, instead of sitting still.

*on right: blooms with foliage,
NDS Championships, Sussex, 2007*

Malcolm Keller, South Australia
Exhibiting with foliage

I think few would disagree with the notion that dahlias exhibited with foliage look more attractive than those without foliage.

Under the present Standards unless the foliage is unblemished it attracts a penalty, albeit small. As a consequence of this penalty we exhibit more 'balls on sticks' than might otherwise be the case.

My suggestion is that unless the foliage is significantly damaged, ie it detracts from the display, exhibitors be permitted to stage blooms with attached foliage without penalty. Equally there should be no penalty for exhibiting without foliage.



Show Results - 2011

NEW SOUTH WALES & ACT

DAPTO SHOW

22 January

Championship	1st I Townsend	
Winning Blooms: Formby Alpine, Karen Joy, Zorro		
Grand Champion	Formby Alpine	I Townsend
Medium Decorative	Formby Alpine	I Townsend
Medium Cactus	Karen Joy	I Townsend
Exhibition Cactus	Cricket	B & I Raines
Waterlily	Cameo	I Townsend
Pompon	Mi Wong	B & L Raines
Flower of the Year	Bracken Sarah	R & H Curll
	Judge: J Woodfield	

KIAMA SHOW

28 January

Championship	1st I Townsend	2nd G & S Davis
Winning Blooms: Devon Citation, BJ Rival, Aitara Conference, Zorro, Formby Crest, Formby Alpine		
Grand Champion	Devon Citation	I Townsend
Medium Decorative	Winkie Bomadeer	G & S Davis
Medium Cactus	Devon Citation	Ian Townsend
Exhibition Cactus	Cricket	B & L Raines
Waterlily	Kens Gold	J & J Woodfield
Ball	Cornel	K Beattie
Pompon	Linda Harris	G & S Davis
Flower of the Year	Bracken Sarah	B & L Raines
8 Exhibitors	Judges: A Ross & E Ross	

LITHGOW WORKMENS CLUB

27 February

Lithgow Workmens Club Championship - 6 vases		
1st A Hayman	2nd I Townsend	
Winning Blooms: Le Batts Prime, Higgo Lacy, Karras 150, Jan Lennon, Downham Royal, Hamari Accord		
Central West Dahlia Championship - 3 Vases		
1st A Hayman	2nd I Townsend	3rd R Mercer & L Pasfield
Winning Blooms: Jan Lennon, Hamari Accord, Higgo Lacy		
Grand Champion	Zorro	I Townsend
Decorative over 210 mm	Zorro	I Townsend
Medium Decorative	Regina	I Townsend
Small Decorative	Formby Alpine	R Mercer & L Pasfield
Miniature Decorative	Ryecroft Jan	R & N Slarke

Cactus Medium	Jan Lennon	A Hayman
Cactus Small	Devon Elegance	I Townsend
Cactus Miniature	Karass 150	A Hayman
Exhibition Cactus	Darbro Gift	I Townsend
Fimbriated Cactus	Higgo Lacy	A Hayman
Waterlily	Kens Gold	J Fillingham
Collerette	Aitara Conference	I Townsend
Ball	Downham Royal	A Hayman
Pompon	Rays Gold	R & E Smith
Orchid	Lilian 'O' 15	I Townsend
Other Type - (Stellar)	Alloway Candy	I Townsend
9 Exhibitors	Judge: F Stralow	

CANBERRA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SHOW 5 March

Championship - 6 vases distinct types

1st G & S Davis

2nd J & J Woodfield

Winning Blooms: Brian R, Linda Harris, Devon Citation, Formby Crest, Hamari Accord, Figurine

Grand Champion

Brian R

G & S Davis

Reserve Champion
Decorative, over 210 mm
Medium Decorative
Small Decorative
Miniature Decorative
Cactus, over 210 mm
Medium Cactus
Small Cactus
Miniature Cactus
Exhibition Cactus
Fimbriated Cactus
Waterlily
Ball
Pompon
Orchid
Collerette
8 Exhibitors

Jan Lennon
Formby Monarch
Brian R
Trengrave Millenium
Formby Crest
Maxmann
Jan Lennon
Valetta
Kiara Forgwen
Darbro Gift
Tioga Autumn
Cameo
Ivanetti
Linda Harris
Lilian 'O' 15
Miss Joan
Judge: E Notley

J & J Woodfield
J & P Hill
G & S Davis
J & P Hill
G & S Davis
J & P Hill
J & J Woodfield
J & J Woodfield
G & S Davis
J & J Woodfield
J & J Woodfield
G & S Davis
J & J Woodfield
G & S Davis
G & S Davis
G & S Davis

BLACKTOWN SHOW

Championship

1st R Mercer & L Pasfield

2nd I Townsend

Winning Blooms: Aitara Majesty, Mi Wong, Brian R

Grand Champion

Narooma Princess

I Townsend

Medium Decorative
Small Decorative
Medium Cactus

Como Polly
Brian R
Kenora Sunset

I Townsend
R Mercer & L Pasfield
R Mercer & L Pasfield

Small Cactus
 Exhibition Cactus
 Fimbriated Cactus
 Waterlily
 Ball
 Pompon
 Collerette
 2 Exhibitors

Devon Elegance
 Darbro Gift
 Aitara Picardy
 Narooma Princess
 Cornel
 Mi Wong
 Kens Gala
 Judge: R Curl

I Townsend
 I Townsend
 R Mercer & L Pasfield
 I Townsend
 R Mercer & L Pasfield
 R Mercer & L Pasfield
 I Townsend

ORANGE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SHOW

Central West Dahlia Championship: 3 vases, distinct types

1st G & S Davis

2nd R & N Slarke

19 March

3rd J & J Woodfield

Winning Blooms: Maxmann, Kenora Sunset, Pam

Grand Champion

Hamari Accord

R & N Slarke

Reserve Champion
 Decorative over 210 mm
 Medium Decorative
 Small Decorative
 Miniature Decorative
 Cactus over 210 mm
 Medium Cactus
 Small Cactus
 Miniature Cactus
 Fimbriated Cactus
 Waterlily
 Collerette
 Ball
 Pompon
 Novice
 10 Exhibitors

Maxmann
 Winkie Colonel
 Elma Elizabeth
 Kenora Firefighter
 Batts Prime
 Maxmann
 Hamari Accord
 Devon Elegance
 Kiara Forgwen
 Tioga Autumn
 Narooma Princess
 Pinkie 'O'
 Lemon Zing
 Pam
 Como Polly
 Judge: S Astill

G & S Davis
 R & E Smith
 A Hayman
 J & J Woodfield
 A Hayman
 G & S Davis
 R & N Slarke
 R & E Smith
 G & S Davis
 J & J Woodfield
 G & S Davis
 A Hayman
 P & J Stonestreet
 G & S Davis
 K & B Small

BLANEY SHOW

Championship

1st R & N Slarke

26 March

2nd J Finneran

Winning Blooms: Maggie Hannaford, Jan Lennon, Devon Citation

Grand Champion

Formby Twilight

J Finneran

Decorative
 Cactus
 Fimbriated Cactus
 Waterlily
 Ball
 Pompon
 Collerette
 5 Exhibitors

Maggie Hannaford
 Formby Twilight
 Higgs Lacey
 Cameo
 Downham Royal
 Pam
 Pinkie 'O'
 Judge: J Woodfield

R & N Slarke
 J Finneran
 J Finneran
 B & L Smith
 B & L Smith
 P Stonestreet
 J Finneran

ROYAL CANBERRA SHOW

Championship - 6 vases distinct types

1st G & S Davis

2nd J & J Woodfield

Winning Blooms: Hamari Accord, Maggie Hanaford, Pretty Girl, Pam, Kenora Sunset, Brian R

Grand Champion

Decorative, over 210 mm

Medium Decorative

Small Decorative

Miniature Decorative

Cactus, over 210 mm

Medium Cactus

Small Cactus

Miniature Cactus

Exhibition Cactus

Fimbriated Cactus

Waterlily

Ball

Pompon

Other Type

Flower of the Year

5 Exhibitors

Hamari Accord

Winkie Admiral

Maggie Hanaford

Bracken Sarah

Le Batts Prime

Darbie Tom

Hamari Accord

Valetta

Kiara Forgwen

Cricket

Tioga Autumn

Wakefield seedling

Formby Crest

Pam

Brooks Louise

Bracken Sarah

Judge: A Strachan

G & S Davis

G & S Davis

G & S Davis

J & J Woodfield

G & S Davis

G & B Carroll

G & S Davis

G & S Davis

G & S Davis

J & J Woodfield

J & J Woodfield

G & S Davis

G & B Carroll

G & S Davis

J & J Woodfield

J & J Woodfield

CASTLE HILL SHOW

Championship - 6 vases

1st I Townsend

2nd R Mercer & L Pasfield

Winning Blooms: Narooma Princess, Bracken Joan, Devon Elegance, Aitara Majesty, Kenora Jubilee, Winkie Colonel

Grand Champion

Decorative, over 210 mm

Medium Decorative

Small Decorative

Miniature Decorative

Cactus, over 210 mm

Medium Cactus

Small Cactus

Miniature Cactus

Fimbriated Cactus

Waterlily

Pompon

Orchid

Flower of the Year

2 Exhibitors

Devon Elegance

Winkie Colonel

Como Poly

Everton Esquire

Bracken Joan

Kiara Julia

Kiara Julia

Devon Elegance

Glenbank Twinkle

Judith Taylor

Narooma Princess

Mi Wong

Lilian 'O'

Bracken Sarah

Judge: R Curll

1 April

I Townsend

I Townsend

I Townsend

I Townsend

I Townsend

R Mercer & L Pasfield

R Mercer & L Pasfield

I Townsend

I Townsend

R Mercer & L Pasfield

R Mercer & L Pasfield

R Mercer & L Pasfield

I Townsend

CONCORD GARDEN CLUB**9 April****Championship****1st R Mercer & L Pasfield****2nd I Townsend**

Winning Blooms: Glenmarc Sahara, Judith Taylor, Hamari Accord

Grand Champion**Formby Supreme****I Townsend**

Medium Decorative

Formby Supreme

I Townsend

Medium Cactus

Kenora Sunset

I Townsend

Waterlily

Cameo

I Townsend

Pompon

Stoneleigh Joyce

R Mercer & L Pasfield

Collerette

Aitara Conference

I Townsend

Orchid

Lillian 'O' 15

R Mercer & L Pasfield

Flower of the Year

Bracken Sarah

R Mercer & L Pasfield

3 Exhibitors

Judge: A Ross

SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW No 2**20 April****Championship - 6 vases****1st G & S Davis****2nd R Mercer & L Pasfield**

Winning Blooms: Kelgai Ann, Valletta, Maggie Hannaford, Kiara Julia, Devon Radiance, Wakefield Conclusion

Grand Champion**Kiara Julia****G & S Davis**

Decorative, over 210 mm

Hamari Gold

G & S Davis

Medium Decorative

Maggie Hannaford

G & S Davis

Small Decorative

Braken Sarah

G & S Davis

Miniature Decorative

Brooks Josh

G & S Davis

Cactus, over 210 mm

Kenora Jubilee

G & S Davis

Medium Cactus

Kiara Julia

G & S Davis

Small Cactus

Valetta

G & S Davis

Miniature Cactus

Kiara Forgwen

G & S Davis

Exhibition Cactus

Cricket

G & S Davis

Fimbriated Cactus

Alessa

G & S Davis

Waterlily

Kelgai Ann

G & S Davis

Ball

La Can Doof

G & S Davis

Pompon

Linda Harris

G & S Davis

Collerette

Aitara Conference

R Mercer & L Pasfield

Other Type - (Orchid)

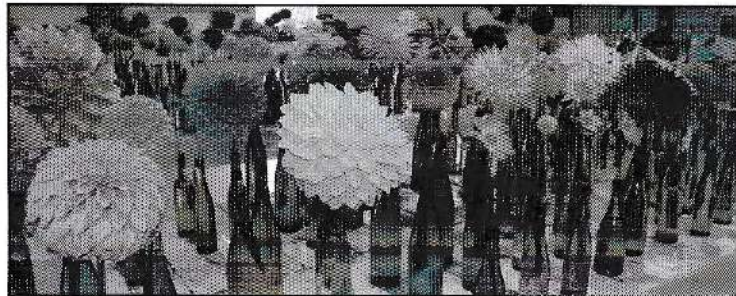
Lillian O 15

R Mercer & L Pasfield

Judges:

A Ross &

J Woodfield



SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW No 3

24 April

Championship - 6 vases

1st R Mercer & L Pasfield

2nd G & S Davis

3rd R & H Curl

Winning Blooms: Kenora Sunset x 3, Devon Calypso, Christie Knight, Judith Taylor

Grand Champion

Kenora Sunset

R Mercer & L

Pasfield

Decorative, over 210 mm

Christie Knight

R Mercer & L Pasfield

Medium Decorative

Snow White

G & S Davis

Small Decorative

Bracken Sarah

G & S Davis

Miniature Decorative

Devon Calypso

R Mercer & L Pasfield

Cactus, over 210 mm

Scarborough 2000

G & S Davis

Medium Cactus

Kenora Sunset

R Mercer & L Pasfield

Small Cactus

Wakefield Conclusion

G & S Davis

Miniature Cactus

Valetta

G & S Davis

Exhibition Cactus

Darbro Gift

R Mercer & L Pasfield

Fimbriated Cactus

Judith Taylor

R Mercer & L Pasfield

Waterlily

Narooma Princess

G & S Davis

Ball

La Can Doof

G & S Davis

Pompon

Pam

R & H Curl

Collerette

Aitara Conference

R Mercer & L Pasfield

Other Type

Brooks Louise

G & S Davis

4 Exhibitors

Judges: A Ross & J Woodfield



Bracken Sarah, flower of the year NSW

QUEENSLAND

STANTHORPE AGRICULTURAL

Grand Champion

Reserve Champion

Large/Giant Decorative
 Medium Decorative
 Small Decorative
 Miniature Decorative
 Large/Giant Cactus
 Medium Cactus
 Small Cactus
 Miniature Cactus
 Exhibition Cactus
 Fimbriated Cactus
 Pom
 Collerette
 Any Other Type
 Novice

Nerrawfest

Darbro Gift

Zorro
 Formby Supreme
 Bracken Sarah
 Granite Dusty Pink
 Kiara Julia
 Susan French
 Desert Lodge
 Nerrawfest
 Darbro Gift
 Jennie
 Pam
 Seedling
 Unnamed Ball
 Taratahi Lilac

28 January

M & B Balch

B & J Murphy

M & B Balch
 M & B Balch
 W & J McCosker
 M & B Balch
 M & B Balch
 W & J McCosker
 H Riley
 M & B Balch
 B & J Murphy
 B & J Murphy
 M & B Balch
 B & J Murphy
 B & J Murphy
 L Johnson

WAVEL HEIGHTS COMBINED

Grand Champion

Reserve Champion

Large/Giant Decorative
 Medium Decorative
 Small Decorative
 Miniature Decorative
 Large/Giant Cactus
 Medium Cactus
 Small Cactus
 Miniature Cactus
 Fimbriated Cactus
 Waterlily
 Pompon
 Any Other Type
 Intermediate
 5 Queensland Raised

Bracken Sarah

Devon Caress

Regina
 Como Polly
 Bracken Sarah
 Bracken Glenda
 Kiara Julia
 Hamari Accord
 Devon Caress
 Moray Bronte
 Higgo Lacey
 Figurine
 Nero
 Christie Shayla
 Downs Hazel

6, 7 March

M & B Balch

M & B Balch

Wedd family
 M Brown
 M. & B Balch
 M & B Balch
 Wedd Family
 M & B Balch
 M & B Balch
 M & B Balch
 M & B Balch
 Wedd Family
 M & B Balch
 M & B Balch
 D Brown
 M & B Balch

STANTHORPE

Grand Champion

Reserve Champion

Giant Decorative
 Large Decorative

Bracken Sarah

Moray Bronte

Winkie Colonel
 Winkie Colonel

12 March

B & J Murphy

M & B Balch

Wedd family
 Wedd Family

Medium Decorative
 Small Decorative
 Miniature Decorative
 Large Cactus
 Medium Cactus
 Small Cactus
 Miniature Cactus
 Fimbriated Cactus
 Waterlily
 Pompon
 Colerette
 Exhibition Cactus
 Any Other Type
 Seedling
 Intermediate
 Novice

Bracken Sarah
 Bracken Sarah
 Bracken Sequel
 Kiara Julia
 Susan French
 Moray Bronte
 Aitara April
 Jennie
 Bracken Lorelie
 Mi Wong
 Hillara Jean
 Freelancer
 Christie Shayla
 Orange Small Cactus
 Bracken Lorelie
 Moray Bronte

W & J McCosker
 B & J Murphy
 Wedd Family
 M & B Balch
 W & J McCosker
 M & B Balch
 B & J Murphy
 M & B Balch
 B & J Murphy
 T & C Hillard
 M & B Balch
 B & J Murphy
 T & C Hillard
 M & B Balch
 W & J McCosker
 D Brown

MT COOT-THA

Grand Champion
Reserve Champion
Championships

Centro 9 Bloom Challenge
5 Queensland Raised
2011 Challenge Bloom - Bracken Sarah
Aggregate Points Open
Aggregate Points Intermediate
Jock Brown Memorial
Peter Andrews Memorial

Giant Decorative
 Large Decorative
 Medium Decorative
 Small Decorative
 Miniature Decorative
 Large Cactus
 Medium Cactus
 Small Cactus
 Miniature Cactus
 Fimbriated Cactus
 Waterlily
 Pompon
 Any Other Type
 Seedling
 Intermediate
 Novice

Orange Sm Cac Seedling
Moray Bronte

19 - 20 March
B & J Murphy
T & R Beenders

B & J Murphy
B & J Murphy
B & J Murphy
Wedd family
W & J McCosker
B & J Murphy
Wedd Family
 Wedd Family
 Wedd family
 M Colby
 B & J Murphy
 C & C McLaughlin
 B & J Murphy
 B & J Murphy
 B & J Murphy
 T & R Beenders
 B & J Murphy
 B & J Murphy
 C & C McLaughlin
 Wedd family
 M Colby
 W & J McCosker
 L Johnson

Winkie Colonel
 Winkie Colonel
 Bracken Sarah
 Bracken Sequel
 Bracken Catherine
 Kiara Julia
 Yellow Seedling
 Autumn Seedling
 Moray Bronte
 Higgs Lacey
 Bracken Hydra
 Pam
 Mauve Single Seedling
 Orange Med Cactus
 Bracken Sarah
 Aitara Bronwyn

MORAYFIELD**Grand Champion****Reserve Grand**

Decorative, over 210 mm
 Medium Decorative
 Small Decorative
 Miniature Decorative
 Cactus, over 210 mm
 Medium Cactus
 Small Cactus
 Miniature Cactus
 Fimbriated Cactus
 Waterlily
 Pompon
 Any Other Type
 Novice
 5 Queensland Raised

TOOWOOMBA**Grand Champion****Reserve Champion**

Large/Giant Decorative
 Medium Decorative
 Small Decorative
 Miniature Decorative
 Large/Giant Cactus
 Medium Cactus
 Small Cactus
 Miniature Cactus
 Fimbriated Cactus
 Waterlily
 Pompon
 Miscellaneous

LUTWYCHE**Grand Champion****Reserve Grand**

Large/Giant Decorative
 Medium Decorative
 Small Decorative
 Miniature Decorative
 Large/Giant Cactus
 Medium Cactus
 Small Cactus

Judith Taylor**Reg Kapler**

Winkie Whopper
 Barbara Elaine
 Bracken Sarah
 Bracken Glenda
 Inland Dynasty
 Reg Kapler
 Just Judy
 Just Judy
 Judith Taylor
 Moray Jewell
 Pam
 Moray Apache
 Downs Hazel

Moray Bronte**Taratahi Lilac**

Winkie Colonel
 Formby Supreme
 Bracken Sarah
 Bracken Sequel
 Aitara Majesty
 Susan French
 Moray Bronte
 Taratahi Lilac
 Jennie
 Pam Howden
 Pam
 Cactus Seedling

Moray Bronte**Cream Seedling**

Pollyanna
 Kims Valentine
 Bracken Sarah
 Bracken Glenda
 Inland Dynasty
 Kenora Jubilee
 Cream Seedling

26 March**Wedd Family****Wedd Family**

Wedd Family
 C McLaughlin
 Wedd Family
 Wedd Family
 Wedd Family
 Wedd family
 C McLaughlin
 Wedd family
 Wedd Family
 C McLaughlin
 C McLaughlin
 T Beenders
 D Brown
 Wedd Family

30 March**M & B Balch****M Colby**

Wedd Family
 M & B Balch
 M & B Balch
 Wedd Family
 Wedd Family
 M & B Balch
 M & B Balch
 M Colby
 M & B Balch
 Wedd family
 M Colby
 M & B Balch

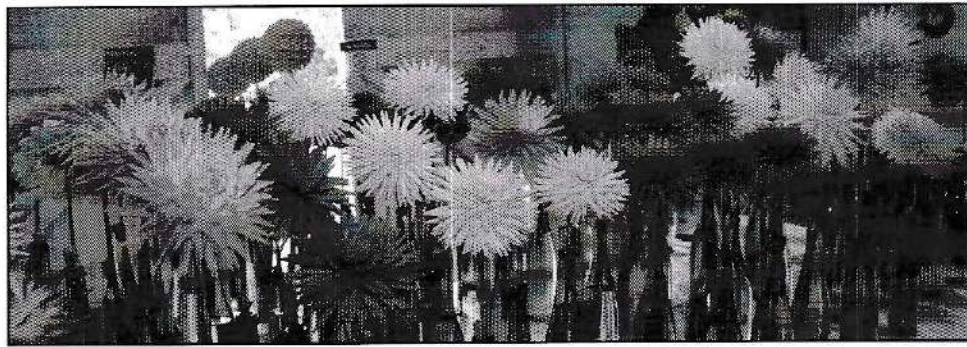
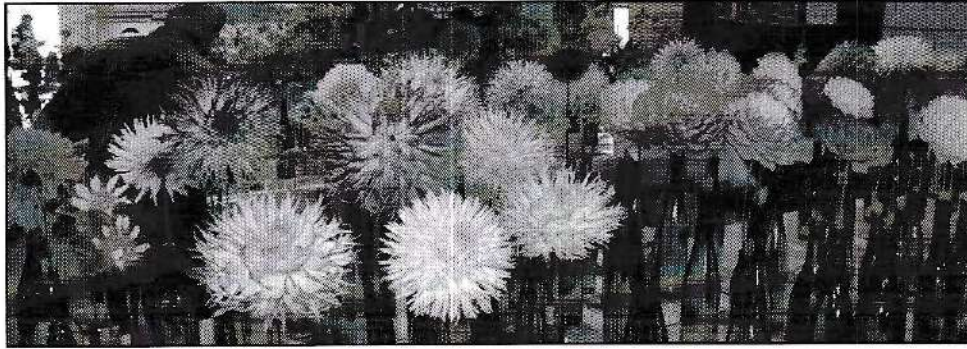
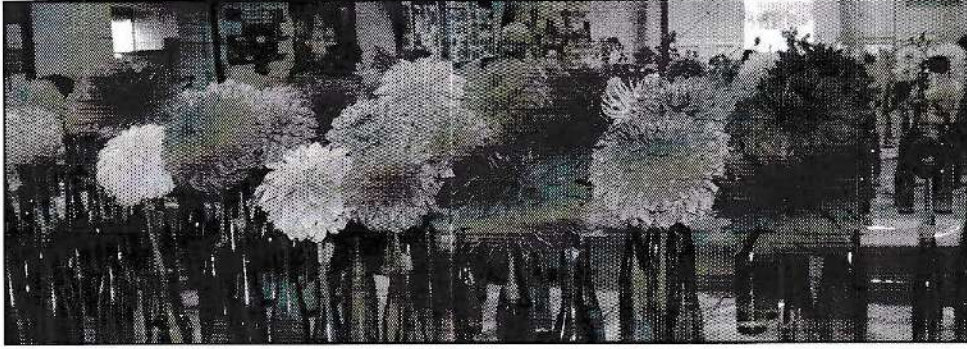
2 April**Wedd Family****C McLaughlin**

Wedd Family
 C McLaughlin
 Wedd Family
 C McLaughlin
 Wedd Family
 Wedd family
 C McLaughlin

Miniature cactus
Fimbriated Cactus
Waterlily
Pompon
AOT
Novice
5 Queensland Raised

Moray Bronte
Show & Tell
Bracken Hydra
Pam
Moray Apache
Downs Hazel

Wedd Family
Wedd family
Wedd family
C McLaughlin
C McLaughlin
J Pullman
Wedd Family



SOUTH AUSTRALIA

STATE SHOW		12 March
GRAND CHAMPION	Formby Crest	J Matulick
Trophy donated by J Argent		
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION	Tyalla Christie	J Matulick
Dahlia Society of SA Silver Medallion		
BEST EXHIBIT IN SHOW	S A Championship	J Matulick
PREMIER EXHIBITION VASE	Noreen	M & C Keller
Midwest D Conference Medallion		
PREMIER B GRADE BLOOM		N & E Jaeschke
Elkhart DS Medallion		

SA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Three blooms over 160 mm - staged singly, three vases under 160 mm, three blooms, one cultivar per vase. All vases to be distinct cultivars and at least four different types.

Greater Kansas City Dahlia Society Medallion - 4 entries

1st J Matulick Winning Blooms: Christie Venture, Maxmann, Susan French

Vases: Karras 150, Kens Gold, Tyalla Christie

2nd M & C Keller Blooms: Como Polly, Hamari Accord, Glenmarc Sahara

Vases: Ivanetti, Noreen, Jomanda

GAYNER PARKER MEMORIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Four vases of three blooms NND with at least three different types selected from:

Collerette, Anemone, Orchid, Stellar, Single, Peony

National Dahlia Society of New Zealand Medallion - 3 entries

1st J Matulick: Winning Vases: Tyalla Blush, Christie Shayla, Hillara Ice, Christie Islett

2nd M & C Keller, Vases: Christie Shayla, Christie Galah, Tyalla Candy, Tyalla Seedling (single)

RAY SELICK MEMORIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

All cultivars to be of Australian origin

Six Vases - blooms over 160 mm staged singly, under 160 mm staged three to a vase

Minnesota Dahlia Society Medallion - 2 entries

1st J Matulick: Christie Huston x 3, Devon Radiance, Christie Como, Susan French

2nd M & C Keller: Devon Citation, Eunice T x 2,

Vases: Pam Howden, Gladys Johns, Formby Crest

BILL TAPLEY WATERLILY CHAMPIONSHIP

One vase containing three blooms. Three blooms staged singly. All NND

Badger State Dahlia Society Medallion -

1st M & C Keller: Pam Howden x 3, Vase: Pam Howden

2nd D & K Neale: Kens Gold x 3, Vase: Kens Gold

REG KAPPLER MEMORIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Nine blooms stages singly, each bloom a different type

Dahlia Society of Tennessee Medallion - 3 entries

1st J Matulick

Winning Blooms: Hamari Accord, Formby Crest, Tyalla Christie, Clara Jean, Christie Jewel, Karras Lee, Kens Gold, Devon Holly, Christie Shayla

2nd M & C Keller

Christie Fuzz, Nationwide, Hamari Accord, Pam Howden, Formby Crest, Betty Ilene, Noreen, Cornel, Christie Shalya,

NOEL BRINKLEY MEMORIAL ENCOURAGEMENT CHAMPIONSHIP

Novice and B Grade only

One vase three blooms one cultivar, three blooms staged singly NND

Michigan Dahlia Association Medallion - 3 entries

1st N & E Jaeschke

CHAMPION BLOOMS

Grand Champion

Reserve Grand Champion

Cactus - Miniature

Cactus - Small

Cactus - Medium

Cactus - Large/Giant

Semi Cactus - Miniature/Small

Semi Cactus - Medium

Semi Cactus - Large

Formal Decorative - Miniature

Formal Decorative - Small

Formal Decorative - Medium

Informal Decorative - Miniature/Small

Informal Decorative - Medium

Informal Decorative - Large

Informal Decorative - Giant

Semi Decorative under 160 mm

Semi Decorative over 160 mm

Ball - Miniature/Small

Pompon

Fimbriated Cactus over 160 mm

Fimbriated Cactus under 160 mm

Exhibition Cactus over 160 mm

Exhibition Cactus under 160 mm

Waterlily

Collerette

Formby Crest

Tyalla Christie

Tyalla Christie

Susan French

Jan Lennon

Kenora Jubilee

Hamari Accord

Hamari Accord

Maxmann

Downs Hazel

Purple Dream

Seedling

Christie Red

Seedling

Christie Venture

Winkie Colonel

Formby Crest

Glenmarc Sahara

Cornell

Noreen

Higgio Lacey

Clara Jean

Mauve Cricket

Fleurieu RoJo

Pam Howden

Karras Lee

J Matulick

J Matulick

J Matulick

J Matulick

J Matulick

N & E Jaeschke

J Matulick

D & K Neale

J Matulick

D & K Neale

M & C Keller

J Matulick

J Matulick

J Matulick

J Matulick

M & C Keller

J Matulick

M & C Keller

M & C Keller

M & C Keller

J Matulick

J Matulick

N & E Jaeschke

D & K Neale

M & C Keller

J Matulick

Orchid
Stellar
Anemone
Single
Peony

URAILDA SHOW

Grand Champion

Large Decorative
Medium Decorative
Small Decorative
Miniature Decorative
Large Semi Cactus
Medium Semi Cactus
Small Cactus
Miniature Cactus
Exhibition Cactus
Fimbriated Cactus
Ball
Pompon
Waterlily
Single
Collerette
Orchid

ANGASTON SHOW

Grand Champion

Large Decorative
Medium Decorative
Small Decorative
Miniature Decorative
Large Semi Cactus
Medium Cactus
Small Cactus
Miniature Cactus
Exhibition Cactus
Fimbriated Cactus
Ball
Waterlily
Single
Collerette
Orchid
Stellar

Christie Shayla
Christie Dove
BJ Rival
Christie Jewel
Christie Eyelet

Formby Crest

Regina
Bracken Sarah
Le Batts Prime
Formby Crest
Maxmann
Formby Karon
Aitara Success
Tyalla Christie
Mauve Cricket
Judith Taylor
Ivanetti
Mi Wong
Figurine
Tyalla Blush
Christie Ken
Christie Shayla

Devon Radiance

Winkie Colonel
Devon Radiance
Devon Glory
Marys Jomanda
Maxmann
Kenora Jubilee
Susan French
Araluen Fire
Fleurieu Sandstorm
Christie Glitter
Christie Blueberry
Figurine
Tyalla Blush
Kens Gala
Christie Shayla
Christie Dove

N & E Jaeschke
N & E Jaeschke
N & A Ray
J Matulick
J Matulick

20 February

M & C Keller

G Errington
G Heinrich
G Heinrich
M & C Keller
J Matulick
J Matulick
M & C Keller
J Matulick
J Matulick
J Matulick
M & C Keller
J Menzel
J Menzel
J Matulick
J Matulick
J Matulick

27 February

J Matulick

J Matulick
J Matulick
A Ray
J Matulick
J Matulick
A Ray
J Matulick
J Matulick
J Matulick
J Matulick
J Matulick
J Matulick
J Matulick
J Matulick
N & E Jaeschke
J Matulick
J Matulick
J Matulick

Anemone
Peony
Champion B Grade/Novice

BJ Rival
Christie Goblin
Christie Dove

J Matulick
J Matulick
N & E Jaeschke

MT PLEASANT SHOW

Grand Champion
Miniature Decorative
Medium Cactus
Fimbriated Cactus
Ball
Pompon
Waterlily
Collerette

Jan Lennon
Formby Mystique
Jan Lennon
Clara Jean
Cornel
Pride of Place
Figurine
Kens Gala

19 March
J Matulick
A Ray
J Matulick
J Matulick
N & E Jaeschke
A Ray
J Matulick
J Matulick

MT BARKER SHOW

Grand Champion
Miniature Decorative
Small Cactus
Ball
Pompon

Devon Caress
Formby Crest
Devon Caress
Downham Royal
Noreen

26 March
J Matulick
J Matulick
J Matulick
M & C Keller
M & C Keller

ENFIELD HORTICULTURAL SHOW

Grand Champion
Large Decorative
Small Decorative
Miniature Decorative
Large Cactus
Medium Cactus
Small Cactus
Miniature Cactus
Exhibition Cactus
Fimbriated Cactus
Ball
Waterlily
Single
Collerette
Orchid
Stellar
Garden Vase

Veras Elma
Veras Elma
Kenora Firefighter
Glenmarc seedling
Kiara Julia
Kiara Julia
Devon Elegance
Araluen Fire
Fleurieu Rojo
Aitara Piocardy
Jomanda
Bracken Lorelei
Christie Jewel
Moray Apache
Golden Sunrise
Christie Galah
Glenmarc Marga

16 April
D & K Neale
D & K Neale
D & K Neale
D & K Neale
D & K Neale
D & K Neale
D & K Neale
A & N Ray
A & N Ray
D & K Neale
D & K Neale
D & K Neale
D & K Neale
D & K Neale
A & N Ray
A & N Ray
A & N Ray

RIVERLAND FLORAL SPECTACULAR

Australian Inland Championship **1st J Menzel**

Winning Blooms: Hillview Iceberg x 3, Winkie Seedling (Exhibition), Hamari Accord x 2
Vases of 3: Bracken Astra, MiWong, Devon Safari

23 March

Six Type Championship**1st A Hardingham**

Maxmann, Pinkie 'O', Mi Wong, Christie Galah, Glenmarc Whiskey, Golden Sunset

Berri Centenary Dahlia Challenge (10 Blooms)**1st J Menzel**

Winning Blooms: Bracken Nikolaus x 9, White Winkie seedling		
Dahlia of Show	Red Medium Cactus seedling	A Hardingham
Vase of Show	Bracken Astra	J Menzel
Large Decorative	Winkie Colonel	J Menzel
Medium Decorative	Polyanna	J Menzel
Small Decorative	Bracken Sarah	M & B Balch
Miniature Decorative	Bracken Nikolaus	J Menzel
Large Cactus	Kiara Julia	A Hardingham
Medium Cactus	Red Glenmarc seedling	A Hardingham
Small Cactus	Hayley Jayne	A Hardingham
Miniature Cactus	Aitara April	D Robertson
Exhibition Cactus	Winkie Seedling	J Menzel
Pompon	Glenbank Honeycombe	J Menzel
Waterlily	Bracken Lorelei	J Menzel
Anemone	Mexico	J Menzel
Collerette	Aegean Sky	G Errington
Orchid	Bracken Astra	J Menzel

TASMANIA**LAUNCESTON****Launceston Championship - 9 blooms****1st C & L Smith****2nd C & L Smith****3rd B & K Smith**

Winning Blooms: Veras Elma, Aitari Majesty, Bracken Sarah, Pam Howden, Devon Cherub, Pam, Devon Mystique, Devon Elegance, Devon Seduction

Launceston Dahlia Championship - 6 Tasmanian Raised Varieties 1st C & L Smith

Winning Blooms: Formby Monarch, Devon Delta, Devon Calypso, Devon Maree, Devon Seduction, Formby Quest

Six Decorative Championship 1st B & K Smith

Winning Blooms: Bracken Sarah, Glenmarc Sahara, Maggie Hannaford, Glenmarc Viva, Formby Embers, Devon Mystique

Nine Types Championship 1st C & L Smith

Winning Blooms: Formby Monarch, Kiara Julia, Perbeck Lydia, Devon Elegance, Devon Seduction, Mi Wong, Aitara Picardy, Devon Cherub, Mauve Cricket

LHS Inc "Kenora Jubilee" Challenge bloom – 1st C & L Smith**Grand Champion****Perbeck Lydia****C & L Smith****Reserve Champion****Formby Crest****R Gatenby**

Intermediate Champion

Formby Crest

R Gatenby

Novice Champion

Embrace

G Stokes

Large/Giant Decorative

Formby Monarch

C & L Smith

Medium Decorative	Formby Perfection	B & K Smith
Small Decorative	Bracken Sarah	B & K Smith
Miniature Decorative	Formby Crest	R Gatenby
Large/Giant Cactus	Kiara Julia	C & L Smith
Medium Cactus	Perbeck Lydia	C & L Smith
Small Cactus	Devon Elegance	C & L Smith
Miniature Cactus	Devon Seduction	C & L Smith
Fimbriated Cactus	Aitara Picardy	C & L Smith
Exhibition Cactus	Mauve Cricket	C & L Smith
Waterlily	Figurine	C & L Smith
Ball	Devon Safari	C & L Smith
Pompon	Mi Wong	C & L Smith
Collerette	Pinkie 'O'	C & L Smith
Single	Quamby Manna	D Pyke
Seedling	Min Cactus - Yellow	C & L Smith
Best Vase	Devon Seduction	C & L Smith
10 Exhibitors	Judge: G Fooks	

WESTBURY

Championship - 6 blooms

1st C & L Smith

Winning Blooms: Veras Elma, Kenora Jubilee, Brian R, Devon Elegance, Devon Calypso, Devon Seduction

Grand Champion

Kiara Julia

C & L Smith

Reserve Champion

Kiara Julia

B & K Smith

Intermediate Champion

Araluen Fire

T Benyon

Novice Champion

Devon Seattle

G Stokes

Seedling

Min Dec - Bronze

C & L Smith

Challenge Flower

Hamari Accord

B & K Smith

LATROBE

Latrobe Dahlia Championship - 8 blooms

1st C Smith

Winning Blooms: Formby Monarch, Kenora Jubilee, Gladys Johns, Devon Calypso, Devon Safari, Ball, Formby Salmon, Pam

Grand Champion

Kiara Julia

C & L Smith

Reserve Champion

Yellow Medium Cactus

C & L Smith

Intermediate Champion

Devon Blaze

T Benyon

Vase Championship

1st C & L Smith

2nd D Pyke

Winning vases: Brian R, Devon Caress, Bracken Nikolaus, Devon Blaze

Best Vase

1st C Smith

10 Exhibitors

Judge: G Harding

VICTORIA

STATE SHOW

27, 28 February

VICTORIAN DAHLIA CHAMPIONSHIP - Bob & Emily Trotter Memorial

1st A & J McKay 2nd J Menzel 3rd D King

Winning Blooms: Reg Kappler, Hamari Accord, Kiara Julia, Tioga Autumn, Susan French

Vases: Devon Elegence, Marys Jomanda, Winholme Diane, Devon Cherub

2nd Blooms: Winkie Colonel, Alden Rocket, Kenora Jubilee, Hamari Accord, Kiara Julia

Vases: Bracken Nikolaus x 2, Mi Wong

VICTORIAN RESERVE CHAMPIONSHIP

1st A & J Mc Kay 2nd J Menzel

Winning Blooms: Narrows Tricia, Silver Gay, Susan French

Vases: Hillier Tanunda, Gay Twinkle, Winholme Diane

2nd Winkie Colonel, Kenora Jubilee, Bracken Sarah

Vases: Gladys Johns x 2, Mi Wong

SMALL GROWERS CHAMPIONSHIP - Eric Paynter Memorial

1st D King 2nd S Cox

Winning Blooms: Kenora Wildfire, Kenora Jubilee, Hamari Accord, Vase of Embrace

9 TYPE DAHLIA CHAMPIONSHIP - Gladys Johns Memorial

1st A J Mc Kay 2nd J Menzel

Winning Blooms: Devon Elegence, Hamari Accord, Embrace, Pink Suffusion, Pam Howden, Jennie, Lakeland Sunset, Amira, Gay Twinkle

MEDIUM DAHLIA CHAMPIONSHIP - Bill Foster Memorial

1st L Lawson

Winning Blooms: Formby Monarch x 2, Jack Bourke, Formby Duke, Kenora Jubilee, Susan French

UNDER 160 mm CHAMPIONSHIP - Frank Rossack Memorial

1st L Lawson

Winning Blooms: Aussie Inspiration, Glenmarc Viva, Aitara Picardy

Vases: Karras 150, Formby Crest, Marys Jomanda

POMPON DAHLIA CHAMPIONSHIP - Eunice Turton Memorial

1st A & J McKay

Vases: Willo Fleck, Bowen, Willo Violet, Noreen

ARTHUR HINDRY CHAMPIONSHIP

1st S Cox 2nd D King

Winning Blooms: Kenora Jubilee x 2, Ivory Palace

Vases: Rycroft Jan, Corn Jnr, Trevellyn Kiwi

UNDER 160 mm CHALLENGE**1st S Cox****2nd B Sullivan**

Winning Blooms: Corn Jnr, Stevans Vanda, Ryecroft Peace, Ryecroft Jan, Cornel

NDSV NINE BLOOM CHALLENGE**1st D King****2nd B Sullivan**

Winning Blooms: Trengrove Millenium, Hillview Iceberg, Hamari Accord, Susan French, Formby Perfection, Elma Elizabeth, Gladys Johns, Glenbank Twinkle, Marys Jomanda

VICTORIAN INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP**1st P Gallon**

Winning Blooms Over 160 mm: Hamari Accord, Scarborough 2000

Under 160 mm: Formby Alpine, Formby Art, Le Batts Prime

Vases: Embrace, Marys Jomanda

INTERMEDIATE UNDER 160 mm CHALLENGE**1st P Gallon**

Winning Blooms: Formby Atom, Formby Pearl, Le Batts Prime, Stevans Vanda

MAJOR AWARDS**Best exhibit in Show - Vic Dahlia Championship**

A & J McKay

President's Trophy

Picture Frame Display

D Collett

Best Dahlia over 160 mm

Silver Gay

A & J McKay

Best Dahlia Under 160 mm

Mi Wong

J Menzel

Best Vase

Bracken Astra

J Menzel

Peoples Choice

1. J Menzel (Most Colourful Dahlia)
2. P Gallon (Floating Dahlias)
3. D Collett (Dahlias under water)

Best Photographic Exhibit

P Gallon (Dahlia Blooms)

Aggregate Award

P & P Gallon

Encouragement Award Novice

H Goonetilleke

AWARD OF MERIT CERTIFICATES - Best of Type

Medium Decorative

Alden Rocket

J Menzel

Small Decorative

Bracken Sarah

D King

Miniature Decorative

Bracken Nikolaus

J Menzel

Large Cactus

Reg Kappler

A & J McKay

Medium Cactus

Silver Gay

A & J McKay

Small Cactus

Devon Elegance

A & J McKay

Fimbriated Cactus

Jennie

A & J McKay

Ball

Marys Jomanda

A & J McKay

Pompon

Mi Wong

J Menzel

Orchid

Bracken Astra

J Menzel

Single

Seedling

J Menzel

Waterlily

Figurine

J Menzel

CROYDON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY & GARDEN CLUB

Croydon Championship: 1st D King, 2nd L Lawson

Winning Blooms: Hillview Iceberg, Hamari Accord, Kenora Jubilee

Vases: Embrace, Cornel, Formby Crest

NDSV Bronze Medallion:	Display of Tiny Tot	Bob Yeomans
	Dahlias in a basket	
Best over 160 mm	Winkie Colonel	D King
Best vase under 160 mm	Formby Crest	D King
Award of Merit Certificates:		
Medium Semi Cactus	Hamari Accord	D King
Small Cactus	Devon Elegance	D King

KERANG GARDEN CLUB

Kerang Garden Club Championship: 1st A & J McKay, 2nd A & J McKay

Winning Blooms: Susan French, Silver Gay, Kiara Julia, Kenora Firefighter, Devon Elegance, Lakeland Sunset

NDSV Bronze Medallion:	Championship	A & J McKay
Best over 160 mm	Susan French	A & J McKay
Best vase under 160 mm	Willo Boralis & Rhonda x 2	A & J McKay
Best Intermediate	Hamari Accord	Catherine Rosewall
Best Beginner		Alan Evans
Award of Merit Certificates:		
Small Cactus	Devon Elegance	A & J McKay
Fimbriated Cactus	Tioga Autumn	A & J McKay
Small Decorative	Brian R	A & J McKay

PRESTON GARDEN CLUB

NDSV Rural Championship: 1st B Sullivan, 2nd D King

Winning Blooms: Kenora Wildfire, Kenora Jubilee x 2,

Vases: Formby Crest, Le Batts Prime, Cornel

NDSV Silver Medallion:	Championship	B Sullivan
NDSV Bronze Medallion:	Vase of Gladys Johns	D King
Award of Merit Certificate:		
Small Cactus	Vase of Embrace	D King

WESTERN DISTRICT DAHLIA SOCIETY

WDDS Open Championship: 1st J. Daniel, 2nd B. Millard, 3rd A Hardingham

Winning Blooms: Kenora Sunset, Jan Lennon x 2, Embrace, Karras 150

Small Growers Championship: 1st B Donahue, 2nd L Lawson

Winning Blooms: Brian R x 3, Rokewood Opal x 2

NDSV Bronze Medallion	Championship	J Daniel
Best over 160 mm	Kenora Sunset	J Daniel
Best vase under 160 mm	Cornel x 2, Ivanetti	B Millard
Best single under 160 mm	Pink Suffusion	W Hawker

EAGLEHAWK DAHLIA FESTIVAL

Eaglehawk Championship: 1st A & J McKay, 2nd A & J McKay

Winning Blooms: Lakeland Sunset, Kenora Sunset, Kiara Julia, Reg Kappler, Embrace, Gay Twinkle

NDSV Bronze Medallion	Championship	A & J McKay
Best over 160 mm	Kiara Julia	A & J McKay
Best under 160 mm	Embrace	A & J McKay
Best vase under 160 mm	Pacific Revival	A & J McKay
Award of Merit Certificates		
Waterlily	Pam Howden	A & J McKay
Semi Decorative	Mauve (Unnamed)	D Richards

IVANHOE GARDEN CLUB

Championship: 1st D King, 2nd S Cox

Winning Blooms: Kenora Wildfire, Kenora Jubilee, Hamari Accord, Tioga Autumn, Gladys Johns, vase of Embrace

NDSV Bronze Medallion

Best vase under 160 mm Susan French L Lawson

Ribbons

Best over 160 mm Hamari Accord B Sullivan

Best 6 under 160 mm D King

Devon Elegance x 2, Pam Howden, Jan Lennon, Jomanda, Bracken Sarah

ST. JAMES GLEN IRIS

City of Stonnington Dahlia Championship

1st A & J McKay, 2nd D King, 3rd S Cox

Winning Blooms: Kiara Julia, Silver Gay, Embrace, Pink Suffusion, Winholme Diane, Aitara April, Gay Twinkle, Pam Howden, Rokewood Opal

NDSV Bronze Medallion	Championship	A & J McKay
Best over 160 mm	Silver Gay	A & J McKay
Award of Merit Certificate		
Miniature Decorative	Pink Suffusion	A & J McKay

WINCHELSEA GARDEN CLUB

Winchelsea Championship: 1st J Daniel, 2nd B Millard, 3rd C Don

Winning Blooms: Jan Lennon, Hamari Accord, Veras Elma, Elma Elizabeth, Rokewood Opal x 2, and vases of Embrace and a mixed vase Cornel, Ivanetti L'anresse

NDSV Bronze Medallion	Championship	J Daniel
Best over 160mm	Jan Lennon	J Daniel
Best vase under 160 mm	Karras 150	B Millard
Best Intermediate Exhibit	Pam Howden (vase)	Delia Robertson
Best Novice Exhibit	Hillier 'Tanunda	Delia Robertson

SHEPPARTON AND DISTRICT DAHLIA CLUB

Shepparton Championship: 1st A & J McKay, 2nd A Cowen, 3rd R Clarke

Winning Blooms: Reg Kappler, Devon Elegance, Kenora Sunset, Susan French, Pink Suffusion, Lakeland Sunset

NDSV Bronze Medallion	Championship	A & J McKay
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Award of Merit Certificates

Miniature Cactus	Aitara April	A & J McKay
Small Cactus	Devon Elegance	A & J McKay
Small Cactus - vase	Cherwell Goldcrest	A & L McKay

PORTLAND DAHLIA CLUB

Portland Championship: 1st J Daniel, 2nd J Menzel, 3rd J Menzel

Winning Blooms: Jan Lennon, Susan French, Kenora Sunset, Embrace, L'ancrese, Cornel

NDSV Bronze Medallion	Championship	J Daniel
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Award of Merit Certificates

Medium Cactus	Jan Lennon	J Daniel
Medium Decorative	G M Landish	Stephen Brown
Large Cactus	Reg Kappler	J Harris
Miniature Decorative	Glenmarc Margaret	J Harris
Small Decorative	Seedling	B Millard

BENDIGO GARDEN CLUB

Bendigo Championship: 1st A & J McKay, 2nd A & J McKay

Winning Blooms: Kiara Julia, Winkie Colonel, Reg Kappler, Pink Suffusion, Devon Mystique, Embrace

NDSV Bronze Medallion - vase of Ball dahlias		A & J McKay
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Ivanetti, Devon Cherub, Red Balloon

Best over 160 mm	Kiara Julia	A & J McKay
Best under 160 mm	Aitara April	A & J McKay

Award of Merit Certificate

Miniature Decorative	Winholme Diane	A & J McKay
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MOOROOPNA GARDEN CLUB

Mooroopna Dahlia Championship: 1st A Cowen, 2nd R Clarke

Winning Blooms: Kenora Jubilee, Hamari Accord, Winkie Admiral, Le Batts Prime, Araluen Latrice, Bracken Lorelei

NDSV Bronze Medallion	Championship	A Cowen
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Best over 160 mm	Hamari Accord	C Stacey
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Best under 160 mm	Stoneleigh Joyce (Pom)	R Clarke
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Award of Merit Certificates

Small Decorative	Le Batts Prime	A Cowen
Waterlily	Figurine	C Stacey
Miniature Decorative	Moray Linda	A. Cowen

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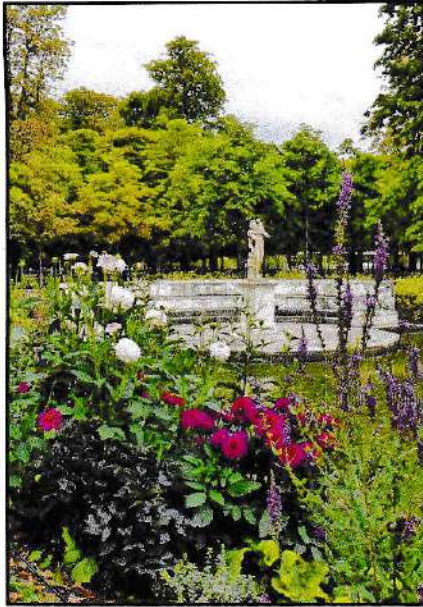
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Dahlias in Parks & Gardens



*above: Jardin des Tuileries Plantations, Paris
right: The Dahlia Society of South Australia's
patch in the Adelaide Botanic Gardens*



*top right: The collection of The French Dahlia Society
at Flamanville; a day of visit*



*bottom right and left: Bundesgartenschau 2011
Koblenz; verwandelt, Germany*



back cover: Wednesday's blooms

