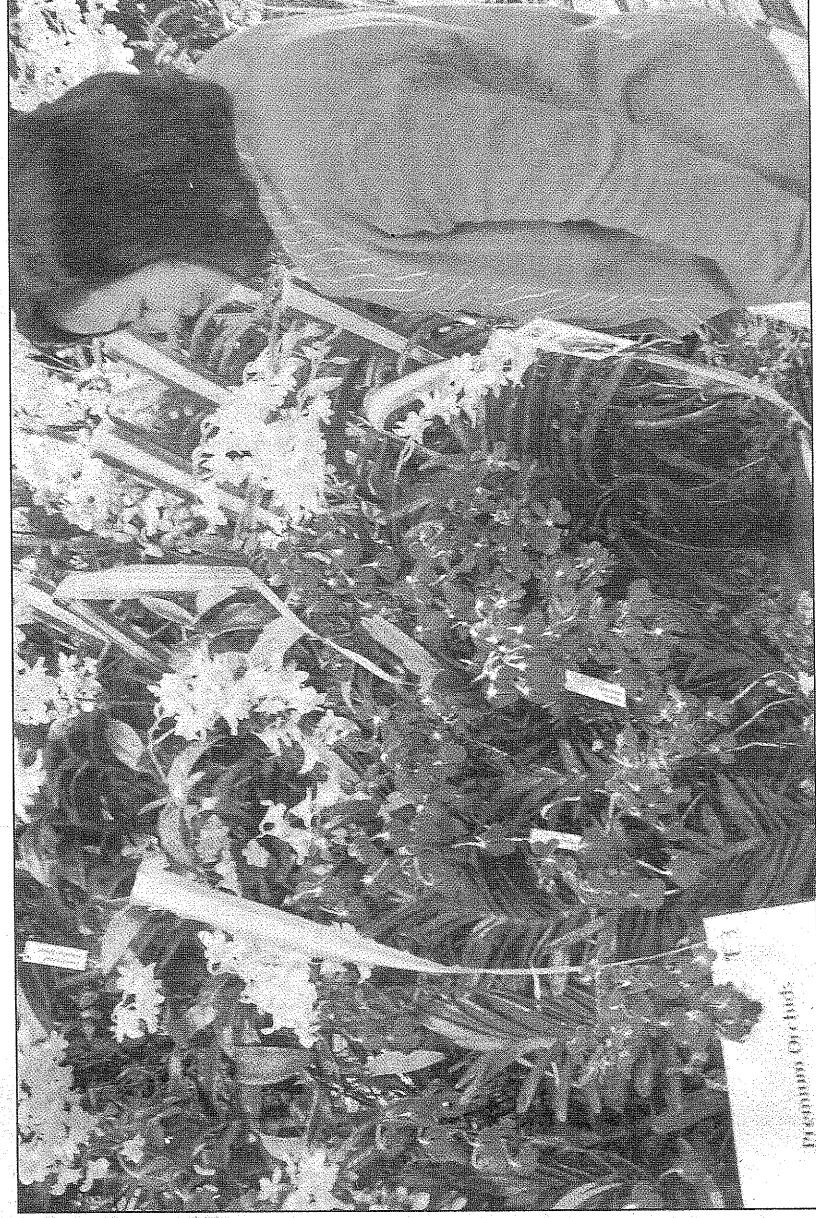


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ARTHUR LEE

Positive: *Ms Koh, suffering from cancer, advised 'enjoy life, do what you need to do, and appreciate your family'*

S'pore Garden Festival makes their day

"SMELL the perfume of flowers, taste with relish each morsel, as if tomorrow you could never smell and taste again." So wrote blind and deaf author Helen Keller in *Three Days to See*.

And, indeed, in this spirit some 400 hospice patients, caregivers and volunteers visited the Singapore Garden Festival this past week.

A benefactor who wants to be known only as Madam Lee, 70, and the National Parks Board paid for their tickets to the eight-day event at Suntec City that ended yesterday.

Dr Tan Kee Wee, chairman of the Singapore Hospice Council, said many of their patients have expressed the desire to go out and enjoy themselves.

The first-time experience touched a patient from HCA Hospice Care. Cynthia Koh, 47, came to "discover the meaning of flowers", as things that "remind her of life, its beauty and many colours".

Suffering from stage four breast cancer, Ms Koh offered this bit of advice: "Enjoy life, do what you need to do, and appreciate your family."