

**PATRON**

The Hon. Shelley Hancock

**PRESIDENT**

Louise Gannon

[lougannon@bigpond.com](mailto:lougannon@bigpond.com)

Ph 0419 241 177

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Sandra Ellis

[pollyellis@outlook.com](mailto:pollyellis@outlook.com)

**SECRETARY**

Francoise Sikora

[fsfrancoise@gmail.com](mailto:fsfrancoise@gmail.com)

**TREASURER**

Tom Gablonski

[tom@gablonski.org](mailto:tom@gablonski.org)

**COMMITTEE**

John Clancy; Ron Findlater;  
Phillip Harrington; Don  
Hogan; Suzanne Knight;  
Lynne Phelan; Brian Phelan;  
Diane Slye.

**ACTING EDITOR**

Lynne Phelan

[phelan.landb@gmail.com](mailto:phelan.landb@gmail.com)

44478280

# SHOALHAVEN ORCHID SOCIETY



*Cymbidium Shoalhaven 'Touch of Class'*

## March 2020

**AFFILIATED WITH**

the Australian Orchid Council and  
the Orchid Society of N.S.W.

[www.shoalhavenorchidsociety.com](http://www.shoalhavenorchidsociety.com)

Email: [shoalhavenorchidsociety@gmail.com](mailto:shoalhavenorchidsociety@gmail.com)

PO Box 1022 Nowra NSW 2541

**ORCHID AUCTION**

**Bring your money because  
you are certainly going to  
want to snap up one of the  
bargains!**



Tonight members will have the opportunity to add to their orchid collections as we expect quite a few lots to be on offer. How does it work?

- Each financial member is able to put up to 6 orchids in the auction.
- The plants for auction should contain two (2) labels; one with the name of the plant and the other with the owner's name.
- You can put a reserve price on the plant if you wish by putting the word 'Reserve' and the reserve price on the label. If the bidding doesn't reach the reserve you take your plant home.
- A coloured sticker will be placed on the plant to indicate it has a reserve price.
- Have a list of your orchids ready to give the auctioneer and mark those with a reserve clearly with the reserve price. You may wish to include brief relevant information on the list such as e.g. 'This orchid needs a dry rest in winter', or similar cultural requirements to assist newer members.
- The Society takes a 10% commission on sales. Purchases will be cash only on the night. It will help if you have smaller denominations.
- All plants offered for sale must be disease and pest free, in a good healthy condition and have been repotted for at least 3 months.
- There will be no orchid sales on the sales table on auction night.

**SOCIETY NEWS**

**VENUE: BOMADERRY BOWLING CLUB,  
154 MEROO ROAD, BOMADERRY.**

**The editor notes ...**

This topsy turvy weather is doing strange things to my orchids. It's only February but I have flower spikes on some *sarcochilus* and the *Laelia anceps* racemes are very well advanced. I think I'll be having my own autumn orchid show.

**NEXT MEETING Monday 16 March. 7.00pm**

Meeting room is open at 6.30pm

Benching to be finished by 7.00pm.

Novice Corner 7.00 – 7.15pm

Popular Vote 7.15 – 7.30pm

Meeting opens 7.30pm.

**GROWING COMPETITION** *Cym. Arachnid AND*

*Den. Purple Paddle Pop x Den. Starsheen*

'Botanic Fireworks'. First benching for this one

and remember you get 1 point for benching even

if your plant isn't judged first or second so bring

it in. This will apply only to growing comp. plants

started from 2020.

THE SHOALHAVEN ORCHID SOCIETY MEETS ON THE **THIRD MONDAY** OF THE MONTH- at **7.00 PM** IN THE BOMADERRY BOWLING CLUB, 154 MEROO ROAD, BOMADERRY. (1.00pm in winter months of June, July and August.)

The Shoalhaven Orchid Society disclaims any liability for losses which may be attributed to the use of any of the material mentioned in this newsletter.



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

At our AGM last month we elected our new Committee for 2020 and I am pleased to say all our 2019 Committee Members nominated and were all elected once again. Suzanne has stepped down as Secretary – staying on Committee, just swapping places with Francoise – our new Secretary. Our Committee is committed to our Society's ongoing success, and we look forward to working together for another year.

I am sure all who attended our February meeting were impressed with the *Thunia venosa* plants that were grown from the cuttings taken from a plant brought to last October's meeting by Guest Speaker, Graham Larkham. Lynne and Brian have done a wonderful job in growing these cuttings into 30cm tall plants, twelve of which were distributed at the Feb. meeting and another six will be distributed at the March meeting, plus two in the Orchid Auction.

I hope members are looking forward to our first Orchid Auction. It will be an ideal opportunity to buy some quality orchids which were grown mainly by our Open Members.

Thank you members who wrote down suggested topics for Novice Corner. They were all good topics and will be discussed at Committee. Please remember - new topics are ALWAYS welcome.

Thank you members for volunteering for our Buntings BBQ which will be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March. The roster is now complete.

See you all at the March meeting,  
Kind regards,  
**Louise**

**MEMBERSHIP** Annual fees are now due. Single \$20 and Family \$30. Please see the Treasurer to renew your membership and to keep receiving your newsletter. You can renew by direct debit to the Shoalhaven Orchid Society BSB 062585 Acc. No. 10263191. Please **include your name** we know who has paid.

If your newsletter has a **red dot** or you receive notification that you are currently unfinancial this will be your final newsletter.

## Current Life Members Shoalhaven Orchid Society

*Mr Stuart Crowther - 1999*  
*Mr Alan Stephenson - 1999*  
*Mr Colin Marstin - 2007*  
*Mr John Webb - 2009*  
*Mrs Lynne Phelan - 2012*  
*Mr Allan Taylor - 2014*



## LIBRARY

### Books To Borrow!

Come & see!!

**Robin Gunter**

## Attendance Book

Members and guests to sign the attendance book.  
This is required for insurance purposes

## Workshop Novices Corner

**Between 7pm and 7.15pm** newer growers can speak to experienced grower. **March topic is *How to increase your orchid collection at no cost!***

Any problem orchid for advice on? (Please bring it in plastic bag if you suspect it has a disease or pest problem.) Remember there's no such thing as a '*dumb orchid question!*'



## WISH LIST

Looking for a special plant??



**Email Lynne** (front page for address) with ....  
**Your Name, Phone number & plant name**  
and I will add it to our newsletter.  
**See Back Page for your Wishes...**

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

### about your Bishop's discount card

A new discount card will be issued when you renew your membership. Please bring your old card to the meeting to exchange for the new card. Treasurer Tom has the new cards.

## Benching Results for February 2020

Category	Plant	Owner
<b>JUNIOR</b>		
<b>NOVICE</b>		
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Wilsonara</i> Pacific Perspective 'Pacific Heat'	F. Sikora
Miscellaneous	<i>Phal.</i> Unknown	R. Gunter
<b>Novice Orchid of the Night</b>	<i>Phal.</i> Unknown	<b>R. Gunter</b>
<b>INTERMEDIATE</b>		
<b>Intermediate Orchid of the Night</b>	None benched	
<b>OPEN</b>		
Paphiopedilum	<i>Paph. sukhakuli</i>	R. Korber
Laeliinae Alliance	<i>Lc.</i> Allen Condo 'SVO' x <i>Lc.</i> Maui Plum 'Volcano Queen'	L. Gannon
Vandaceous	<i>Sartylis</i> Toowoomba Sparkle 'Hubba Bubba'	L. Gannon
Species	<i>Den. lawesii</i>	B. Phelan
Australian native hybrid	<i>Den.</i> Angellene	R. Findlater
Miscellaneous orchid	<i>Phal.</i> Lian Happy Song x P. Mammon	J. Clancy
<b>Open Orchid of the Night</b>	<i>Den. lawesii</i>	<b>B. Phelan</b>
<b>Orchid Species of the Night</b>	<i>Den. lawesii</i>	<b>B. Phelan</b>
<b>Orchid Hybrid of the Night</b>	<i>Blc.</i> Peach Cobbler	<b>L. Gannon</b>
<b>Growing Competition</b>		
<b>1. Cym. Lancashire Khan</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> L. Cowell</b>	---
<b>2. Cym. Joan Bryant</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> L. Cowell</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> R. Findlater</b>
<b>3. Cym. Khanebono</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> B. Smythe</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> L. Cowell</b>
<b>No. of plants benched</b>	18 	Let's hope that we have more orchids to show off in March. 

### **Minutes Continued from Page 7**

**THUNIA VENOSA PLANTS** At our 2019 October meeting Graham Larkham showed us how to cut the canes up, spray the ends with Steriprone and then lie them across the potting mix. Lynne and Brian took the cuttings home and gave them TLC and they look magnificent today. Thanks were extended to Lynne and Brian. The Committee felt the fairest way to distribute these 12 plants was to write down the members names who were present at the October meeting, which John Clancy has done. If you miss out tonight, there are still a few more plants coming on and you may get one of those. At our Auction night next meeting there will be two Thunia plants included, for any member who would like one and was not present at the October meeting. Thunia plants are

deciduous in Winter and start growing again in Spring. They require less water in winter. The following names were drawn: Pam Chapman, Graeme Chapman, Don Raffell, Louise Gannon, Richard Korber, Lynne Phelan, Tom Gablonski, Teresa Bourke, Sue Knight, Françoise Sikora, Ron Findlater, Marie Martin and Leanne Fleck. Graeme Chapman kindly donated his back. **BENCHING RESULTS** were announced by Lynne Phelan, who also mentioned that there were NO Intermediate entries. **LUCKY BADGE DRAW** winner was Phill Harrington. **RAFFLE** winners were Yvonne, Marie, Teresa, Val and Alan Taylor. Members who have brought supper in tonight were thanked. It is very much appreciated. The meeting closed at 10.00 pm





**Coelogyne Unchained Melody** is a primary hybrid between *Coelogyne cristata* and *Coelogyne flaccida*. It blooms in the spring, with pendulous spikes of five to ten white flowers with a slightly yellow to orange lip. There is a light fragrance.

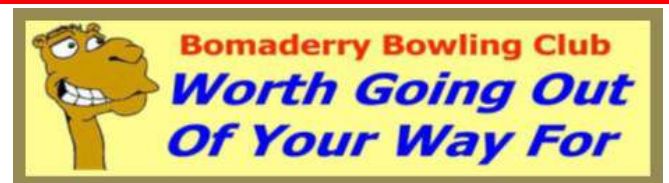
The habitat of *C. cristata* is northeast India, Tibet, Nepal, and into China, at altitudes of up to about 2,500 metres where it experiences moderately warm, wet, summers, and quite cool, drier winters. *C. flaccida* has a similar, somewhat overlapping habitat, extending into Vietnam and Thailand, living at altitudes of about 2,200m. Both species regularly experience winter temperatures below zero. This gives us a hint as to the temperature tolerance of the hybrid *C. Unchained Melody*.

This plant could be grown outdoors in our area, provided that it is somewhat protected from our direct summer sun but will be more than happy in a shade house. Growing orchids, or any plants for that matter, is a cycle. The habitat in which the parent species of *C. Unchained Melody* grow provides for a monsoon-type weather cycle; wet in the summer, and much drier (but not totally dry) in the winter so your culture should reflect that pattern. Water and fertilise well in the growing season and give them a much drier rest in the cold months, withholding fertiliser.

With good culture *C. Unchained Melody* quickly grows into a specimen size plant and is happy to be brought indoors so that you can enjoy the flowers that last for several weeks. It is a great beginner's orchid and should be readily available from orchid vendors or divisions from other club members. Look out for one in our auction.

## The Society Thanks our Generous Sponsors

We encourage you to support them.



**JUDGING RESULTS FOR FEBRUARY 2020**



**Novice Popular Vote**  
*Phalaenopsis* Unknown—Robin Gunter



**Open Popular Vote and Best Species**  
*Den. lawesii*—Brian Phelan



**Best Hybrid**  
Blc. Peach Cobbler—Louise Gannon



**Lynne's Pick**  
*Lc. Allen Condo* 'SVO' x *Lc. Maui Plum* 'Volcano Queen' -  
Louise Gannon

Thanks to Alan Stephenson for the photography.



## Thunia Culture

For those members lucky enough to win one of the thunias that were available at the February meeting I have made some notes on their care based on information from various internet sources. At the March meeting another 5 or 6 more thunia plants will be available in a lucky draw for those members who were at the Graham Larkham workshop last year but who missed out last month. Two of the plants have been reserved for the auction and these will be available to any member who chooses to bid for them.

Thunia are deciduous, biennial plants that develop in spring from the previous season's growth which withers and dies during the second season. I believe it is from these old canes that you can propagate new plants in just the same way Graham showed us. Thunias are in peak growing season now so should be kept watered and fertilised to build up a strong cane. One grower uses a water well pot and puts a top dressing of pelleted animal manure on top of the media and also puts some into the water the pot is sitting in. By encouraging strong healthy roots and growth this season you are laying the groundwork for a good flowering sized cane for next year.

When the leaves start to yellow and fall off reduce the watering and stop fertilising completely when the canes are bare. These orchids need a long, cool, dry rest in winter. Just the occasional light watering or misting is all that is needed. Keep these leafless canes in a dry spot over winter to avoid accidental watering. Repot in spring when the new growth appears. After repotting, keep the young shoot/s dry and the root zone just damp. Once the growth/s reach 8-10cm tall and the roots are taking off increase the water and start feeding again. The plants can be watered abundantly during this intensive growth period but excellent drainage is needed so that the media around the roots is never soggy. It is best to keep the water off the leaves if possible.

The thunias grow vigorously through spring and should flower in summer. Some weeks after flowering the leaves will start to yellow and the cycle starts again.

Thunias appear to grow under a variety of conditions but most growers recommend filtered light,

strong air movement, high humidity in summer, a very open medium, plenty of water and fertiliser when growing and, most importantly, that long dry winter rest which is essential for proper growth and flower initiation. I use a red tag in plants that have a dry dormancy but you might put a note on the label just to remind you that the 'stick' is sleeping, not dead!

Lynne



Sleeping, not dying!

## FORTHCOMING ORCHID EVENTS

**21 March South Coast Orchid Workshop**, CWA Hall, Moruya.

**15-17 May Orchids Out West** Hawkesbury Race Club, 1 Racecourse Rd, Clarendon.

**27-28 June Mingara Orchid Club Fair**, Mingara Recreation Club, Tumbi Umbi.

**4-5 July Milton-Ulladulla Winter Show** Ulladulla Civic Centre, Princes Highway, Ulladulla.

**10-11 July Eurobodalla Orchid Club Winter Show**, Moruya CWA, Queen St, Moruya.

**17-19 July Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Society, Winter show**, Batemans Bay Soldiers Club, Beach Rd, Batemans Bay.

**7-9 August National Orchid Extravaganza**, 1 Pettit Lane Round Corner Dural.

**14-16 August St Ives Orchid Fair**, St Ives Show-ground.

**9-11 October Southern Orchid Spectacular**, 9-11 October, Sutherland Basketball Stadium, Waratah Park, Old Princes Highway, Sutherland.

**Minutes SOS February 2020 General Meeting**, held on 17 February 2020 at Bomaderry Bowling Club, commencing at 8.00 pm

President Louise Gannon welcomed members and visitors to our February Meeting at 8.00 pm after the AGM.

A special warm welcome was extended to George and Mike from Orchid Supplies in Sydney and members were advised that their sales table was in operation.

**APOLOGIES:** John Clarke, Diane Slye and Bob Turnbull The December General Meeting Minutes that were printed in the February Newsletter were correct.

Moved: Ron Findlater; Seconded Teresa Bourke

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Moved Francoise, seconded Ron Findlater, that the Secretary's report of correspondence be accepted as presented.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Moved Tom Gablonski, seconded Sue Knight that the report as presented be accepted. The January Financial Report shows Income of \$20.00 and Expenditure of \$89.85, with a closing balance of \$15,286.04.

**WELCOME THE NEW COMMITTEE** was extended by the President and members present.

The 2020 Bishops discount cards are available for collection from Treasurer Tom Gablonski. You must be a financial member to receive the discount card.

A new **seedling class** has been added to the monthly benching. If you have a seedling that is flowering for the first time and it's the whole plant, bring it along and place it here. Please remember mericlones are not seedlings. If in doubt please ask. The Best Seedling of the Night will be photographed and at the December 2020 meeting these photographs will be displayed and members will judge by popular vote their choice for Orchid Seedling of the Year. The winner receives the Seedling Trophy and a prize. Members were asked to volunteer to take a photo of the Best Seedling each month, record the name and owner, and make a small presentation at the December Meeting. Anyone interested to contact President Louise after the meeting.

There are three clipboards circulating:

1. the Roster for the Bunnings BBQ which is coming up on the 22 March
2. asking Novices/Intermediate or any member who listens to the Novice Corner. We would like you to give us some topics that you would like to hear. If it is important to you we would like to know. It's all anonymous.
3. The President received an email from member Bob Turnbull to say that he has had surgery and will not be back to the Society for a while, so there is a Get Well Card for Bob circulating also.

**Guest presenters** for the evening were George Birss and Mike Hitchcock from Sutherland. They gave interesting information about the water-well pots, the use of hydroponic balls in the bottom the bottom of the pots, the use of UV treated tags for orchids as they do not deteriorate, use hydrogen peroxide (12%) for fun-

gus problems, use of Confidor and Neem oil together, as well as water meter tools and other goodies they have available.

**SUPPER BREAK** was the last opportunity to buy orchid supplies for the evening.

**MARCH ORCHID AUCTION:** As shown in the February Newsletter our Society is having its first Orchid Auction at next month's meeting. It is an opportunity for members to sell some of their spare orchids and also an opportunity for members to buy some plants at much cheaper prices than at Orchid Nurseries.

Each member is able to put up to six orchids in the auction, a couple who are members can put up 12. The plants for auction should have two labels; one with the name of the plant and one with the owner's name. You can put a reserve price on the plant if you wish by putting the word 'Reserve' and the reserve price on the label. If the bidding doesn't reach the reserve you take your plant home.

A yellow sticker will be placed on the plant before the auction to indicate it has a reserve price. This is to draw attention to the Auctioneer that it has a reserve price. Have a list of your orchids ready to give the auctioneer and mark those with a reserve clearly with the reserve price. You may wish to include a brief relevant information on the list such as: "This orchid needs a dry rest in Winter", or "suitable for shade house or hothouse" or cultural requirements to assist newer members to decide whether they will be able to grow it.

The Society will take a 10% commission on the sales. Purchases will be cash only on the night.

All plants offered for sale must be disease and pest free, in a good healthy condition and have been re-potted for at least 3 months. You are welcome to look over the orchid plants before the auction.

There will be no orchid sales on the sales table on Auction Night. A show of hands indicated at least six members would have plants available to auction.

We have filled all the positions related to the auction and the most important – the Auctioneer - will be Richard Korber.

Our By-Laws were updated recently and will be emailed/mailed with the March Newsletter.

**GROWING COMPETITION.** Brian Phelan has volunteered to manage the Growing Competition. Members were asked if any have the cymbidium orchid growing plants. Several members responded positively. A *Sarcophilus* will probably be introduced into the competition in the near future.

The Bunnings BBQ roster which had been circulating was completed.

Alan Stephenson has been a great stalwart of this Society for many years and is in need of a little help with work around his shadehouse. A working-bee has been organised for Friday 6 March, both morning and afternoon available. Volunteers were asked to contact Louise after the meeting.

# 2020 Shoalhaven Orchid Society

## *What's On at a Glance*

### Committee Meetings 2020

3 March 2.00pm

### Society Meetings 2020

**16th March** General meeting and orchid auction

**20 April**

**18 May**

**15 June** }

**20 July** } Day Meetings

**17 August** }

**21 September**

**19 October**

**16 November**

**21 December**

### Society Shows 2020

Winter Show 11-12 July

Spring Show 5-6 September

October Show 24 October

### Coming Society Events

**22 March** Bunnings BBQ

### 2020 Guest Speakers

**April** - TBA

**May** - Jim Cootes - Orchids of the Phillipines

**June** - TBA

**July** - Peter and Jane D'Olier – Orchids of New Guinea

**August** - TBA

**September** - Mitch Karnaghan – Australian Natives

**October** - TBA

**November** - TBA

**December** - TBA

### Growing Competition 2020

Note that we will be benching more than one orchid at each meeting so please bring them all in according to the following schedule. If we get another growing comp. plant during the year we will add it to the schedule.

**March** *Cym.* Arachnid **and** *Den.* Purple Paddle Pop x *Den.* Starsheen 'Botanic Fireworks'

**April** *Cym.* Lancashire Khan 'Debonair' **and** *Cym.* Joan Bryant 'Keen' **and** *Cym.* Khanebono 'Jacinta' x Start Angel x Charisma)

**May** *Cym.* Arachnid **and** *Den.* Purple Paddle Pop x *Den.* Starsheen 'Botanic Fireworks'

**June** *Cym.* Lancashire Khan 'Debonair' **and** *Cym.* Joan Bryant 'Keen' **and** *Cym.* Khanebono 'Jacinta' x Start Angel x Charisma)

**July** *Cym.* Arachnid **and** *Den.* Purple Paddle Pop x *Den.* Starsheen 'Botanic Fireworks'

**August** *Cym.* Lancashire Khan 'Debonair' **and** *Cym.* Joan Bryant 'Keen' **and** *Cym.* Khanebono 'Jacinta' x Start Angel x Charisma)

**September** *Cym.* Arachnid **and** *Den.* Purple Paddle Pop x *Den.* Starsheen 'Botanic Fireworks'

**October** *Cym.* Lancashire Khan 'Debonair' **and** *Cym.* Joan Bryant 'Keen' **and** *Cym.* Khanebono 'Jacinta' x Start Angel x Charisma) **LAST BENCHING**

**November** *Cym.* Arachnid **LAST BENCHING** **and** *Den.* Purple Paddle Pop x *Den.* Starsheen 'Botanic Fireworks'

**December** *Den.* Purple Paddle Pop x *Den.* Starsheen 'Botanic Fireworks' **and** TBA.

### Benching Plants at Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings can be used as rehearsals for Show benching. Try to ensure that every plant you bench is in 'show condition'; that is, remove dead leaves or trim dead leaf tips, remove bulb sheaths and dead bracts, ensure leaves are clean and the flowers are unobtrusively staked to show them to their best advantage and, most importantly, make sure it is free from pests or disease.





## SOS PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

My Presidency of our Society began in April last year. I am happy to report that from that time, our Society has been revitalised by the can-do attitude of all of its members and we have gone from strength to strength.

In 2019 we had a full working Committee of Sandra, Tom, Suzanne, Francoise, Di, Don, Phil, Ron, John, Lynne and Brian who have all done a magnificent job. Together we have:

- re-vamped our By-Laws by making amendments that now reflect our Society's values on the path forward;
- streamlined the way we vote on our benched orchids at our Monthly meetings;
- re-introduced Novice Corner;
- introduced Day Meetings for the cold months of June, July and August; and
- most importantly, we held a tight rein on our spending. We actually made a profit last year. Tom, our Treasurer, has done a fine job looking after our finances, and has certainly been kept very busy with three Shows and three Bunnings BBQs.

Suzanne - our Secretary is stepping down and on behalf of all of us, I thank you, for a job well done. - Suzanne was a new member when she nominated for the Secretary's role and she certainly hit the ground running, and always with a beautiful smile.

Our three Bunnings BBQ's were very successful, with a net profit for the year of \$2,900. Thank you - Yvonne and Sandra for organising the days, and also to members for volunteering.

Our website continues to be a 'work in progress' and I would like to thank Ken Coates for his valuable contribution to the committee's deliberations on future developments. We will continue to work with our current provider to make our website as informative as possible.

We saw our well-liked member Eti, step down from her role as Editor after receiving some not-so-good news regarding her health. We all wish Eti well. As usual, to the rescue came Lynne Phelan who has done a wonderful job as temporary Editor. Lynne has been a strong pillar of this Society for many years, a true powerhouse, and all her work is greatly appreciated.

Our three Shows have been very successful. Thank you to our Show Marshal, Don Hogan, and assistant Ron Findlater for a job well done, and all members who exhibited their orchids, and to our members who volunteered on the sales table, raffle ticket selling, security and not forgetting all the work involved beforehand on advertising and judging night, etc.

For the first time in a while our Society was represent-

ed at the Biennial South and West Regional Orchid Show held in Moruya last October. Six Committee members attended and transported a large number of our members' orchid and foliage plants. Our floor display looked great and some of our members received sashes and certificates for their winning entries. It was a thoroughly enjoyable weekend.

Thank you to Robyn Gunter, our Librarian, for looking after the library through the year. Our Society has some good books there, so take a moment to have a browse.

Thank you Phil and Ron for looking after the Sales Table at meetings.

Thank you also to Alan, Lynne and Yvonne who have taken both orchid and social photos throughout the year. We enjoy looking at them in our Newsletter.

I would also like to thank Don and Francoise for buying seedlings from orchid nurseries, on behalf of our Society. They have been used in raffles, growing competitions, etc. and have been a big saving for our Society.

I would like to thank two Committee Members, Diane Slye (our Public Officer) and John Clancy, who have both worked hard on Committee where their ideas and input is always valued, also at shows, Bunnings BBQs – they are always there.

We all enjoyed a number of Guest Speakers last year:

- Peter Stubbs talking about the Orchids of Borneo;
- Gerry Walsh – the Rock Lily Man who took us to the wilds of mountainous areas of Coastal Queensland in search of the perfectly formed gold *Den. speciosum*;
- Garry Hodder talking about the Dendrobiums of South East Asia;
- Graham Larkham with his hands - on topic of creating new plants from the stem cuttings of a *Thunia venosa* orchid;
- Brian and Lynne Phelan on their fascinating talk on their trip to the Island of Jersey to visit the Eric Young Orchid Foundation;
- Phil Harrington for his informative talk on Bromeliads.

In June, Life Member Alan Stephenson attended Government House to receive his OAM. It was wonderful to hear Alan share with us his experience of the day and show us his medal; a well-deserved award for his life-time contribution and dedication to orchid conservation.

In September, Alan guided some members, including me, on a three-hour walk through Bomaderry Creek. What a great time we all had, seeing orchids and rock formations along the way.

We had 32 members and guests attend and enjoy our Christmas Party and Presentation Night. We congratulated the Annual Prize winners, three members who were elevated – Helen and Garry Douglass and John Clarke, and also Sandra Ellis who was presented with an OSNSW Meritorious Badge for her long-time contribution to our Society.

We thank our sponsors – Bomaderry Bowling Club, Bishops, Bunnings, Bakehouse Delights, SBM, Shoalhaven Trophy & Engraving Centre and Shoalhaven Zoo and Adventure World for their ongoing support.

We lost one of our senior members last year with the passing of Frank Bowyer. We hadn't seen much of Frank in the past few years, but I have heard that he was a well-regarded, hardworking member of our Society.

We welcomed into our Society 26 members - 11 of those new members and 15 previous members, who have re-joined. Francoise volunteered to be our Liaison Officer to help new members feel welcomed.

In conclusion, I would like to say that in the early part of 2019 our Society, after 63 years, came very close to not existing. After that very close call, I think we all realised how much this Society means to us all. Last April, there were so many happy, smiling faces, knowing our Society had been saved, and do you know, I still see those smiling faces today. For me - there is no better reward. It has been a pleasure to serve you as President of this Society.

## **Louise Gannon**

### **Minutes 2020 Annual General Meeting**

Held at Bomaderry Bowling Club on Monday  
17 February 2020

**President** Louise Gannon opened the meeting at 7.30 pm and welcomed all present. Only financial members are able to vote at the AGM.

**Apologies** were received from D Slye, R Turnbull, J Clarke.

**Minutes** of 2019 AGM as displayed on the notice board and previously distributed to members were accepted as accurate. Moved Francoise Sikora and seconded by Jenny Butterfield.

**President's Report** for 2019 was presented by Louise Gannon and is attached. Moved Louise Gannon, seconded Alan Stephenson that the report be accepted.

**Treasurer's Report** was read by Treasurer Tom Gablonski and displayed on the noticeboard. Moved Tom Gablonski, seconded Laurie Cowell that the report be accepted as presented. The Auditor's Report was received by the Treasurer and given to the Secretary.

Suzanne Knight did not stand for the Secretary's posi-

tion in 2020 and has to be removed as a signatory of the Shoalhaven Orchid Society Bank Account. Bank Account details are: CBA – 062 2585, account number 1026 3191. Account Name: Shoalhaven Orchid Society Incorporated. The signatories for 2020 are Louise Gannon, Tom Gablonski and Francoise Sikora. Any two of these three can sign.

**Returning Officer** was appointed – Colin Marstin – and called for nominations after all positions had been declared vacant. Colin moved a vote of thanks to the 2019 Committee for the work done throughout the year. The following nominations were received and all positions filled unopposed.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position Nominated</b>
Louise Gannon	President
Tom Gablonski	Treasurer
Sandra Ellis	Committee/Vice President
Francoise Sikora	Secretary
Don Hogan	Committee/Show Marshal
Brian Phelan	Committee
Lynne Phelan	Committee
Ron Findlater	Committee
John Clancy	Committee
Diane Slye	Committee
Suzanne Knight	Committee
Phill Harrington	Committee
Lynne Phelan	Newsletter Editor – Temporary
Diane Slye	Public Officer
Sandra Ellis	WHS Officer
Jenny Butterfield	First Aid Officer
Robin Gunter	Librarian
Teresa Bourke	Auditor
Vacant	Show Secretary

**Annual Statement for the Financial Year 2019** was presented and is hereby accepted for submission to the Department of Fair Trading, and that the Public Officer Diane Slye and the Treasurer Tom Gablonski be allowed to sign the statement. The motion was moved Alan Stephenson, seconded Phil Harrington.

The Returning Officer congratulated the incoming Committee, thanked everyone for their participation and declared the 2020 AGM closed at 8.00 pm.

## **NEWSLETTER EDITOR WANTED**

The newsletter is an important part of the society's services to members as it keeps us informed about forthcoming events, activities that take place, members' news and decisions and actions taken by committee.

The Publisher program I use was patiently taught to me by Michele Stephenson who was the editor before I started. It is on the Society computer that I use. You will have noticed that the newsletter looked different when Eti edited it because she used a different program. Eti did not write articles on orchid culture to fill spaces as I do but the newsletter was still an informative, attractive and a vital part of the society's communications with members, especially those who could not attend every monthly meeting.

We need another member to take on the role of newsletter editor. I am more than happy to help if you want learn how to use the Publisher program but a newsletter could just as easily be done using Word or another publishing program. You do not need to create content as the photographs, results, minutes, reports, etc will be sent to you each month. Nor do you have to be a member of committee to do the editor's job.

You will need some computer skills to manipulate the various components into a newsletter format, to convert it to PDF and compress the file but I can assist with that and also with setting up a template which then just needs the different monthly content added.

You do not need to house the Society's large printer unless you choose to do so; I am prepared to print and post the newsletters to members who do not have internet access and the Secretary will send out the newsletters to all other members.

I will still be able back up should the need arise but I believe it is time for someone else to fill the role. Please talk to me if you think you might be able to help the society with this important task.

Lynne Phelan