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The Hon. Shelley Hancock

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Harrington; Don Hogan;
Suzanne Knight; Lynne
Phelan; Brian Phelan.**EDITOR**

Lynne Phelan

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44478280

SHOALHAVEN ORCHID SOCIETY



Cymbidium Shoalhaven 'Touch of Class'

SEPTEMBER 2020**AFFILIATED WITH**the Australian Orchid Council and the
Orchid Society of N.S.W.www.shoalhavenorchidsociety.org.auEmail: shoalhavenorchidsociety@gmail.com

PO Box 1022 Nowra NSW 2541



Shoalhaven Orchid Society Inc

GUEST SPEAKER

Mitch Karnaghan is giving a talk on growing Australian Natives and using mounts. Mitch mainly grows Australian natives with some oncidiums, masdevallias, restrepias as well as some exotics. Mitch always gives an interesting and informative presentation so come along and hear Mitch and see what is on the benches this month.

NOVICE CORNER

Committee member, **John Clancy**, is the co-ordinator and members who have a cultural problem or any questions about their orchids are invited to speak to John during Novice Corner. If it is not within John's area he will refer you to another grower who may be able to help. If there is a particular topic you would like to have covered in Novice Corner please feel free to contact John on 44439072 or email john.clancy50@me.com.

This month **Richard Korber** will be available for questions and to talk about the difference between **Paphiopedilums** and **Phragmipediums**.

NEW GROWING COMPETITION ORCHID The sarcophilus that was deflasked and distributed at the August meeting, *Sarc.* Elegance 'Super' x *Sarc.* Sweetheart 'Speckles' is our newest growing comp. plant. Its first benching will be in December. If you were not at the August meeting there will be some spare plants available this month. Please remember that members are allowed only one plant each, no replacements if it dies, so look after it well. There are some tips on looking after your new growing competition plant on page 6.

SOCIETY NEWS

**VENUE: BOMADERRY COMMUNITY CENTRE
17 BIRRILEY STREET, BOMADERRY.**



The *retiring acting editor* is happy to announce that the new Editor-in-Chief is Teresa Bourke. You've heard of the old adage 'if you want something done well you ask a busy person'. Well Teresa certainly fits that bill but, in her own words, "I love being involved with the society and am happy to take on whatever I can manage." So next month you will see this smiling face. Many thanks, Teresa.



NEXT MEETING Monday 21 September. 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

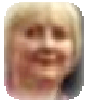
Meeting opens 7.30pm.

* Many hands make for a quick set up/pack up.

GROWING COMPETITION *Cym.* Arachnid and *Den.* Australian Obsession 'Purple Paddle Pop' x *Den.* Starsheen 'Botanic Fireworks'

THE SHOALHAVEN ORCHID SOCIETY MEETS ON THE **THIRD MONDAY** OF THE MONTH- at **7.00 PM** IN THE BOMADERRY COMMUNITY CENTRE, 17-19 BIRRILEY STREET, BOMADERRY.

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

Spring has arrived and showing us the first signs of the very welcome warmer weather. Many Aust. native orchids are flowering now and putting on spectacular displays. I look forward to seeing our members' display of natives at our September meeting. Also attending will be our Guest Speaker, Mitch Kernaghan, who will be talking to us about Aust. natives and how to mount them.

Thank you all members who donated so generously, orchids, plants and money to our mini-auction in aid of the very worthy charity Ronald McDonald House. It was a fun night and as one member said, "It was friendly and everyone had a good time". Altogether \$950 was raised on the night and during the following two weeks. Our Society added another \$50 to roundup the amount to \$1000. A cheque for this amount will be sent to RMCh in early September.

Thank you Ron and Phil for showing us how to deflask our new Sarc. Growing Comp. plants. All members attending received their free seedling to repot. There are still some left for members who were not present at the August meeting.

We have a new Editor with Teresa Bourke offering to take over from our temporary editor, Lynne Phelan. I am sure you will all agree that Lynne has done a great job. We warmly welcome Teresa to her new role.

Recently, I was saddened to hear that member Marie Martin's husband Steve, had passed away suddenly. Our thoughts and prayers are with her at this sad time.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting. In the meantime 'keep social distancing and sanitising'.

Warm regards,

Louise



CONGRATULATIONS ON A GREAT RESULT FROM OUR MINI AUCTION FOR RONALD McDONALD HOUSE

A huge thank you to all the members (and visitors) who supported auction or made donations last month. A lovely lot of plants changed owners and a very creditable donation of \$1,000 has been forwarded to RMH.

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

**Temporarily suspended
until further notice**

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. **September: Richard Korber on Paphiopedilums**

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 Diane has the new cards.

Benching Results for August 2020

Category	Plant	Owner
JUNIOR		
NOVICE		
Aust. Native Species/ Hybrid	<i>Den. Star Sparkler</i>	Francoise Sikora
Novice Orchid of the Night	<i>Den. Star Sparkler</i>	Francoise Sikora
INTERMEDIATE		
Aust. Native Species/ Hybrid	<i>Den. kingianum</i>	John Clarke
Cymbidium	<i>Cym. Khan Flame 'Spring' x Surf Blushing</i>	John Clarke
Miscellaneous	<i>Masd. King of Kings 'Dane Hill'</i>	John Clarke
Intermediate Orchid of the Night	<i>Masd. King of Kings 'Dane Hill'</i>	John Clarke
OPEN		
Paphiopedilum	<i>Paph. Nitens</i>	Don Hogan
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Wils. Oppalescent 'Honolulu'</i>	Brian Phelan
Dendrobium	<i>Den. forbesii</i>	Richard Korber
Vandaceous	<i>Phal. Golden Treasure</i>	Richard Korber
Species	<i>Den. wenzellii</i>	Don Hogan
Australian native species	<i>Den. speciosum</i>	John Clancy
Australian native hybrid	<i>Den. Burgundy Blaze x Den. Dunokayla 'Moonshine'</i>	John Clancy
Cymbidium	<i>Cym. Deathwish 'Speckled Spectre'</i>	Phil Harrington
Miscellaneous orchid	<i>Masd. Blazing Wing 'Rich Port'</i>	Don Hogan
Open Orchid of the Night	<i>Den. speciosum</i>	John Clancy
Orchid Species of the Night	<i>Den. wenzellii</i>	Don Hogan
Orchid Hybrid of the Night	<i>Phal. Golden Treasure</i>	Richard Korber
Growing Competition	<i>Cym. Khanebono 'Jacinta' x (Start Angel x Charisma)</i> 1st Lawrie Cowell	
NUMBER OF PLANTS BENCHED 72 Well done, Members  ATTENDANCE 28 + 4 visitors		

- If you think I have made an error in the recoding please let me know. (landb.phelan@gmail.com)
- In July I had the wrong/incomplete information for the Intermediate Cymbidium. The winner was John Clarke and I have amended the point score.
- My apologies to members for my rant re members not bringing in their Den. Purple Paddle Pop for the growing comp. It appears the only person not to have read the newsletter was the acting editor. 😞
- Having referred to the growing comp. plant as Den. Purple Paddle Pop, as Richard Korber point out, its full name is **Den. Australian Obsession 'Purple Paddle Pop' x Starsheen 'Botanic Fireworks'** so in future I will use its full name or Den. Australian Obsession for short.

JUDGING RESULTS FOR AUGUST 2020



Open Popular Vote *Den. speciosum* John Clancy



Intermediate Popular Vote
Masd. King of Kings 'Dane Hill' AM
John Clarke



Novice Popular Vote *Den. Start Sparkler*
Francoise Sikora



Species of the Night
Dendrochilum wenzellii Don Hogan

Hybrid of the Night
Phal. Golden Treasure Richard Korber



Many thanks to Alan Stephenson for his photographs and to all the members who have provided material for the newsletter during my editorship.

It is with sadness that we advise members that fellow member, Marie Martin, has recently suffered the sudden and unexpected loss of her husband, Steve. The Society extends its sincere condolences to Marie.

NOVICES' CORNER John Clancy with some of our members learning about mounting native orchids. John is the contact person for members wishing to have a particular topic dealt with in this small group forum. Note our Covid Marshal, Diane Slye, making sure everyone is keeping safe.



BENCHING YOUR ORCHIDS AT A MEETING.

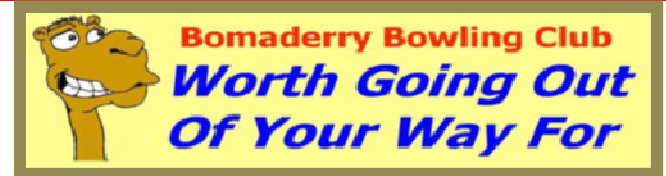
Now that the peak flowering season is with us the benching marshal asks all members to be mindful that **all plants need to be benched by 7.00pm**. Because we don't know what plants will be benched it is often necessary to shuffle the divisions around to make extra space for classes that have many exhibits. Only after these are settled can the popular vote cups be put in place. Late entries cause confusion and unnecessary stress for the members trying to ensure that each orchid is benched to its advantage for the popular vote.

If you bring your plants after 7.00pm they may not be able to be benched for judging though you are welcome to display them - probably on the stage area unless another suitable place can be found.

In addition to your newsletter there is a **BENCHING PLAN AND POPULAR VOTE LAYOUT** attached showing where to put plants and the circuit to follow so that social distancing can be maintained. This will be trialled at the September meeting and we will see whether any adjustments are needed.

The Society Thanks our Generous Sponsors

We encourage you to support them.

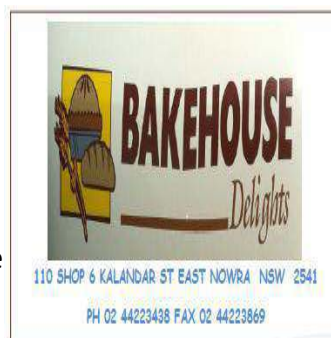


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Caring for your new seedling orchid.

Orchid seedlings in flasks have spent their lives with wet roots, warmth, low light and sufficient amounts of food. Taking them out of the flasks, potting them in bark, and then placing them in the greenhouse without providing for their needs, is an invitation to failure. To minimize the shock of transplanting these seedlings, you should attempt to duplicate as closely as possible, those conditions found inside the flasks.

They will require some humidity so regular misting can help, as will keeping them out of drafts and drying winds and out of direct sunlight. A clear plastic dome such as the top of a soft drink bottle can help initially but good ventilation is necessary after the initial shock from deflasking is over.

Until the little plants establish in their pots it is important that they are not subject to being jiggled about as the root tips are easily damaged.

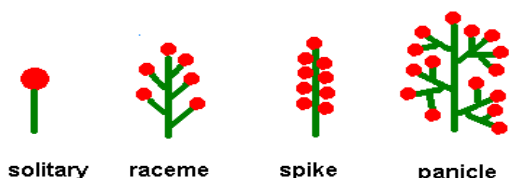
They do need feeding but very weak - perhaps ¼ strength balanced fertilizer interspersed with a weak dose of organic fertiliser such as Charlie Carp or a seaweed extract for the first month or so.

Sarcochilus have no pseudobulbs or canes to store moisture so they should not be allowed to dry out. The opposite applies too, as they do not like to have wet roots so an open mix that drains well is important.

Raceme? Spike? Inflorescence?

There is a fair bit of confusion about what to call the flowering stem of our orchids. Most people seem to use the term 'spike' but that term is only correct for some orchids. While trying not to be too pedantic I think we orchid growers can be a bit more precise without too much effort.

Inflorescence is the name given to the flowering part of an orchid. It is a generic term and can be used for all flowering stems but inflorescences come in many different forms, some of which are illustrated.



A **spike** refers to an unbranched inflorescence where the flowers are sessile, that is, they grow directly from the stem like this *Spiranthes australia* or *Bulbophyllum sessile* below.



I believe Don's dendrochilum on page 5 is an example of a spike.

A **raceme** is an unbranched inflorescence with flowers on pedicels (short stalks). Think of a cymbidium or a phalaenopsis. Look at the lovely raceme on John's *Den. speciosum* or Richard's phalaenopsis on page 5. Each flower is attached to the inflorescence with a short stalk. The majority of orchids including most dendrobiums, cattleyas, oncidiums, cymbidiums, phalaenopsis, etc. appear to have racemes so this would be how we would refer to most orchid flowers. e.g. John Harri-man's *Cym. Sarah Jean* 'Ice Cascade' has 5 pendulous racemes.



Some racemes are branched and the botanical term for this is a **panicle**. The inflorescence on *Onc. Sharry Baby* is a panicle but may still be referred to as a raceme.



Orchids which have an inflorescence with single flower such as a masdevallia or some paphiopedilums are, by botanical definition, neither a spike nor a raceme so perhaps the best way to refer to them is to use the generic term, inflorescence though I think we often just use the words 'stem' or 'flower' when we refer to these orchids. e.g. Don's lovely masdevallia on page 5 has a strong stem and a huge flower.

So, if very few orchids have actual **spikes**; I say, let **racemes** rule.

Lynne

SHOALHAVEN ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY 17th August 2020

HELD AT BOMADERRY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Meeting opened 7.30pm.

President, Louise Gannon, welcomed all members and visitors. She also reminded everyone to sign the Covid attendance sheet and our Society Attendance Book, maintain social distancing and use hand sanitiser supplied where appropriate.

Apologies: Tom Gablonski, Robyn Gunter, Ken Coates, Rebecca Exley, Marilyn and Neville Higgins, and Marie Martin

Attendance: 28 Members Visitors: 4

Acceptance of Minutes for the July meeting as printed in the August Newsletter were correct:

Moved T. Bourke. 2nd J. Clancy that Minutes be accepted

Correspondence: As Read. Moved F. Sikora. 2nd D. Slye that correspondence be accepted.

Treasurers Report: As Read. Moved D. Slye. 2nd B. Phelan that Treasurer's report be accepted.

W.H.S. Report: Sandra reminded everyone about social distancing and hand hygiene especially around the supper table. Sandra also pointed out the location of the Evacuation Plan for BCC, the 2 exits to be used in case of fire, location of the fire extinguishers and that the Evacuation Meeting Point was in the carpark.

New member Pauline de Launey was given her welcome pack.

John Clancy has kindly accepted the role of Novice Corner Coordinator. John took Novice Corner tonight and talked about Dockrillias. John handed out some information sheets and answered many questions which Novices found helpful. Any suggestions for NC should be directed to John.

Thank you to everyone who arrived early to help set up Louise spoke about the passing of our member, Michelle Hahn. Michelle and Ross joined the Society in 2012.

Michelle participated in many Society activities and was always willing to help. Michelle will be remembered as a happy person who always had time for a chat. Both Michelle and Ross received the Meritorious Service Badge in 2018. A service was held at the Shoalhaven Memorial Chapel and a floral display was sent on behalf of members. A card was sent to Ross with our sincere condolences. Members were then asked to stand for a minute's silence in memory of Michelle.

Our Spring Show has been cancelled due to Covid restrictions on numbers at Bomaderry Bowling Club. As this show generally coincides with Fathers' Day, we wish all dads, uncles, etc. a wonderful day. We await to hear about our October Show.

Due to Covid concerns the Committee has decided to withdraw our participation in the Southern Orchid Spectacular to be held in October.

Again, due to Covid the Committee has decided to temporarily cancel the Library until the situation is under control. Spring is almost upon us and a great time to be repotting. Please check the sales table for any items that you require. We recently purchased a box of Bug Killer which will

be sold for \$15 each, there are only 12 available.

The Committee has been reviewing the Constitution addressing grammar issues (shall to will etc.) and discussing some minor changes to some of the clauses. Once a final draft has been completed the changes will be brought to members for approval.

Ron and Phil were well organised for the deflasking demonstration with two tables set up for social distancing. They explained each step from removing the seedlings from the jar to rinsing off the agar with warm water and carefully separating the seedlings so as to not damage the roots. A few members had questions which were all answered. Starting with the Novices each member took a turn to pot up and label their plant, which will form part of our Growing Competition. Very informative demonstration and enjoyed by members. Louise presented Ron and Phil with a token of appreciation. Thank you, Lynne, for printing off the plant name labels.

We then broke for supper. Thank you, Suzanne and Helen, for serving supper. Thank you to all members who brought something along for us to enjoy and also for observing social distancing.

Our Fund-Raising Mini Auction in aid of the very worthy charity Ronald McDonald House commenced. Louise first spoke again briefly about why we decided to do this fundraiser.

Richard Korber although slightly handicapped after shoulder surgery, was Auctioneer for the evening with his trusted assistants Brian and Don. Ron and Françoise were the runners and Diane the money collector. Bidding was tense but many members walked away with a bargain and new plants to add to their collections. A good laugh and fun had by all. A huge thank you to all who donated plants and to Ken and Leonie Coates who donated 30 plants for this cause, also to everyone, members and visitors who bid and donated money. Thank you to all the helpers. We can proudly say that to date we have raised \$930 that will cover the cost for approx. 6 nights for a family staying in Ronald McDonald House. Congratulations!

Louise reminded everyone that John Harriman has some potting bark available from Bob Bishop.

Benching Results: As published in the Monthly Benching Results in this Newsletter.

Growing Competition: As published in the Monthly Benching Results in this Newsletter.

Thanks everyone with 74 plants benched and 2 Growing Competition Plants benched and 1 Not for Judging.

Badge Draw: Winner John Harriman

Raffle Winners: Diane Slye, Don Raffell, F. Sikora, Ron Findlater and apologies to the other 2 winners as with all the excitement I forgot to note all the winners.

Thank you to Sandra and Lynne for doing the benching count. Thank you to Alan and Sandra for taking the photos.

Thank you to everyone who stayed to help packing up. Many hands mean we all get home quicker.

Louise wished everyone a good evening and a safe trip home.

Meeting Closed 9.20pm

Next Meeting Monday 15th September at 7pm.

2020 Shoalhaven Orchid Society

What's On at a Glance

Committee Meetings 2020

6 October 12.45pm at Francoise' house.

Society Shows 2020

October Show 24 October *To be confirmed*

2020 Program & Guest Speakers

21 September - Mitch Karnaghan on Australian Natives

19 October - Jim Cootes on Orchids of the Philippines

16 November - Peter and Jane D'Olier – Orchids of New Guinea

21 December - Christmas Party and Annual Presentations

BARK AVAILABLE

John Harriman has supplies of Bob Bishop's New Zealand Kiwi bark available in the following sizes: 2 - deflasking size; 3; 4 (15mm) and 5 (25mm).

All bark is \$36 per 30kg bag.

John also has some good quality charcoal (about 15mm) available.

Members wishing to purchase bark or charcoal can phone John on 44439462 and John will bring your order to the monthly meeting or you can arrange with John to collect it from his house at Old Erowal Bay if it is more convenient.

PARKING AT BOMADERRY COMMUNITY CENTRE

There is only one disabled parking space at the front of the hall but several of our members have compromised mobility. To allow these members to have easier access to the hall to bring in their orchids other members are asked not to park in the **two parking spaces closest to the rear entry**. Your cooperation will be much appreciated.

ORCHIDS IN SPRING

Spring cleaning isn't just for carpets and cupboards. Orchid collections benefit from regular clean ups as well. Most of us will have had our orchids crowded into winter quarters for the last few months so it is timely to do a thorough check of each plant and make sure they are in optimal health for the growing season and that the growing area is clean and free from pests and weeds....
You can read the rest of this article on our website.

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.

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

October *Cym. Lancashire Khan 'Debonair' and Cym. Khanebono 'Jacinta' x Start Angel x Charisma)* **LAST BENCHING FOR THESE TWO**

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

December *Den. Australian Obsession Purple Paddle Pop x Starsheen 'Botanic Fireworks' and Sarc. Elegance 'Super' x S. Sweetheart 'Speckles'*. **FIRST BENCHING**



Photographer's Pick Alan Stephenson chose Don Hogan's *Coelogyne Unchained melody* as a very good specimen plant. Great photo as well. Thanks to Alan for the orchid photos in this newsletter.

PROGRESS REPORT Committee has been revision the society's Constitution. The revisions are almost complete. When finalised the draft new constitution will be circulated to members and, after the changes are explained, members will be asked to vote to accept the new constitution. This will take place at either the November or December meeting.