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44478280

# SHOALHAVEN ORCHID SOCIETY

*Cymbidium Shoalhaven 'Touch of Class'***April 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

**SOCIETY NEWS****The editor notes ...**

Hello members.

We are still looking for a new editor and I will be very happy to discuss what is involved with you if you think you might be able to do it. Talking doesn't commit you to anything and I will quite understand if you decide it is not for you. **Lynne**

**Deflasking deferred**

The planned April meeting demonstration of deflasking some sarcochilus seedlings has been deferred until we are able to meet again. The hybridiser, Scott Barrie, has kindly agreed to mind our flasks until we can resume meetings. The cross as pictured below should yield some very good seedlings as both parents have excellent shape and interesting colour patterns. This will become a growing competition plant once we have deflasked and potted them up.



Sarc. Elegance 'Super' x S. Sweetheart 'Speckles'

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

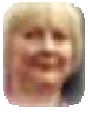
**Due to the COVID 19 pandemic our April General Meeting has been cancelled. Your May newsletter will advise whether we are resuming meetings in May. When meetings resume we will be meeting at our**

**NEW VENUE:  
Bomaderry Community Centre  
17-19 Birriley Street,  
Bomaderry.  
See map on page 7.**

**Until we can meet again look after yourself and enjoy your orchids**

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.

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

I am sorry to confirm that our April General Meeting has been cancelled due to the Coronavirus pandemic. It is very likely that future meetings will also be cancelled as this health crisis worsens.

You will continue to receive your monthly Newsletter, and I encourage you to take photos of your flowering orchids and/or, possibly write a short story on your orchid growing area and email it to our temporary editor, Lynne Phelan, for inclusion in our Newsletter. In this way we can try to keep in touch and connected with each other, until we can re-start our meetings.

I hope everyone enjoyed the Orchid Auction held at our last meeting. It certainly was a great opportunity to buy some new orchids to add variety to our collections, all at reasonable prices. Thank you Richard Korber, our auctioneer, and Treasurer Tom and all members who assisted.

Members who were not present at the March General meeting may not know that we are no longer holding our meetings at the Bomaderry Bowling Club. The club can no longer afford to provide a free venue to not-for-profit organisations. The new charge of \$280 per meeting was completely unaffordable for our Society. Once our meetings return, they will be held at the **Bomaderry Community Centre, 17 – 19 Birriley St. Bomaderry 6.30pm – 9.30pm**. Our 3 Shows remain at the Bomaderry Bowling Club. We thank BBC for their support and wish them well through the compulsory lock down.

On behalf of our Committee I would like to say, that we hope all our members and their families stay healthy, safe and strong during this trying time.

Warm regards,  
**Louise**



## 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

## Online Novice Workshop

**If you have a question or a problem please feel free to contact the editor and she will try to help by:**

- answering your question if it is within her orchid knowledge (limited!!);
- forwarding it to a society members who may be able to help;
- giving you a web site that may have the solution.



## 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 March 2020

Class	Plant	Owner
<b>NOVICE</b>		
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Odcdm. Catatante 'Kilauea Karma'</i>	F. Sikora
Miscellaneous	<i>Gongora galeata</i>	F. Sikora
<b>Novice Orchid of the Night</b>	<b><i>Odcdm. Catatante 'Kilauea Karma'</i></b>	<b>F. Sikora</b>
<b>INTERMEDIATE</b>		
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Miltassia</i> Charles M. Fitch 'Zumi'	J. Clarke
<b>Intermediate Orchid of the Night</b>	<b><i>Miltassia</i> Charles M. Fitch 'Zumi'</b>	<b>J. Clarke</b>
<b>OPEN</b>		
Paphiopedilum	<i>Paph. primulinium</i> 'Yellow Orb' x <i>P. Angel Hair</i> 'Dreadlocks'	W. Simmons
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Milt.</i> Lillian Nakamoto 'Tanto'	B. Phelan
Laeliinae Alliance	<i>Lc.</i> Dendi's Double	L. Gannon
Vandaceous	<i>Phal.</i> Lian Her happy Song x <i>P. Mammon</i>	J. Clancy
Species	<i>Laelia dayana</i> var. <i>coerulea</i> x <i>L. dayana</i>	L. Phelan
Australian native hybrid	<i>Den.</i> (Star of Gold x <i>D. fleckeri</i> ) x <i>D. bigibbum</i> var. <i>compactum</i>	R. Korber
<b>Open Orchid of the Night</b>	<b><i>Paph. primulinium</i> 'Yellow Orb' x <i>P. Angel Hair</i> 'Dreadlocks'</b>	<b>W. Simmons</b>
<b>Orchid Species of the Night</b>	<b><i>Dendrochilum magnum</i></b>	<b>R. Korber</b>
<b>Orchid Hybrid of the Night</b>	<b><i>Phal.</i> Lian Her happy Song x <i>P. Mammon</i></b>	<b>J. Clancy</b>
<b>Growing Competition</b>		
<i>Cym.</i> Arachnid	<b>1st L. Gannon</b>	<b>2nd F. Sikora</b>
<i>Den.</i> Purple Paddle Pop	<b>1st Y. Young</b>	<b>2nd R. Gunter</b>
One point each to: J. Clarke, J. Clancy, L. Cowell, L. Gannon, B. Phelan, L. Phelan, F. Sikora, S. Brkic .		
No. of plants benched: 28 Better  BUT...can we do better? 		

### MAY NEWSLETTER

If the worst comes to the worst and we cannot meet again in May perhaps members would like to send me a photo of any orchids they have in flower and we can have a 'virtual benching' in the May newsletter.

Having said that, I'm not sure if I can do it but I'm happy to give it a try. Send your pictures or orchid news to me ([phelan.landb@gmail.com](mailto:phelan.landb@gmail.com)) by Anzac Day and I'll see if I can get them into the newsletter.

### New Popular Voting System

A new, simpler way for members to vote for their favourite orchids on display will start when our meetings resume. No longer will you get a voting slip and a pencil; instead you will get a handful of **BLUE** counters and three **RED** counters and there will be a cup in front of each orchid. When you choose your favourite orchid in a class you put a **BLUE** counter into that plant's cup. When you have finished choosing your favourite orchid in the classes in each section, e.g. Novice, you place your **RED** counter in the cup of the orchid you think is the best in that section. We hope this system will make it easier for you and also for the members who tally and record the results.

## Culture of Soft Cane Dendrobiums

One of my purchases at the March auction was a softcane dendrobium so I thought I would refresh my knowledge of its cultural requirements. The following is from the OSNSW website. The main message seems to be that by far the most important aspect of their culture is that they have a definite and set time to grow and an equally set time not to grow. When this is properly understood, the rest is relatively simple.

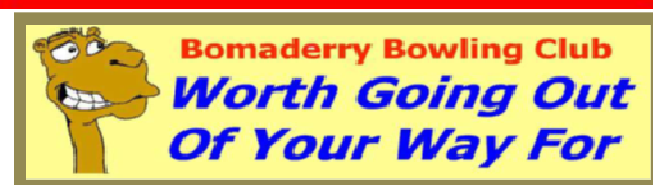
Soft cane dendrobiums come from Asia. Every year they produce new "canes", between 40-100 cm long, with alternating pale green leaves. The flowers are generally produced on the previous year's leafless canes. Their colour ranges from pure white to yellow, pale pink to purple, all depending on their parentage. Often the lip is a deep purple with shading to paler petals. The effect is very attractive.

Soft cane dendrobiums will grow happily in most back yards. They need to be potted in a mixture of treated pine bark or orchid mix. The mix needs to be rapidly draining or the roots will not grow and they like to dry out between waterings. This does not harm the plants at all and in fact they seem to thrive on neglect. For feeding they need half-strength fertiliser every one to two weeks; any fertiliser will do.\* In winter, watering and feeding should be decreased or ceased depending on their situation. Older hybrids tend to produce kiekis instead of flowers if over-watered in winter. As with most orchids they should be watered frequently when in active growth or in flower and much less when dormant.

Light is important to induce flowering but preferably filtered light in summer so the foliage does not burn. Under trees or open bushes is ideal and the plants grow very well in hanging pots where there is good air movement. They can also be grown in a shade house under 50% shade cloth. Once the plants are in bud, move them to a sheltered area such as a veranda to keep rain off the buds. Water sitting on the buds can induce fungus with spotting or even bud drop. Good results have been achieved by hanging the plants on eastern facing fences and the clothes lines.

\* Most growers seem to recommend using a low nitrogen fertiliser to avoid keiki growth. **Lynne**

## The Society Thanks Our Generous Sponsors



# JUDGING RESULTS FOR MARCH 2020

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL

Novice Popular Vote



***Odcdm. Catatante 'Kilauea Karma'***  
Francoise Sikora

Thanks to Alan Stephenson  
for the photography

Intermediate Popular Vote



***Miltassia Charles M. Fitch 'Zumi'***  
John Clarke

Best Hybrid



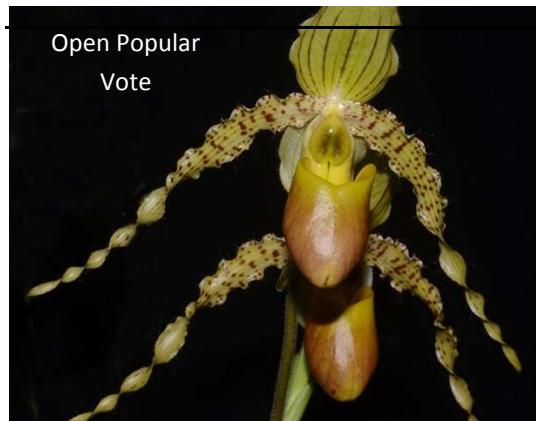
***Paph. primulinium 'Yellow Orb' x P. Angel Hair 'Dreadlocks'***. John Clancy

Best Species



***Dendrochilum magnum***. Richard Korber

Open Popular  
Vote



***Paph. primulinium 'Yellow Orb' x P. Angel Hair 'Dreadlocks'***. W. Simmons



Auctioneer, Richard 'What am I bid' Korber, and the Elves

**SHOALHAVEN ORCHID SOCIETY INC.**  
**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**MONDAY 16<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2020**

Meeting opened 7.35pm.

President Louise Gannon welcomed members and visitors – P De Launey, John Harriman and Brian Shelvey.

**Apologies:** S. Ellis, Ron Turnbull and Val Starling  
Acceptance of Minutes of February meeting. Moved  
Phil Harrington 2<sup>nd</sup> R. Findlater

**Correspondence:** As Read. Moved F. Sikora 2<sup>nd</sup> D  
Slye that correspondence be accepted.

**Treasurers Report:** As read. Moved T. Goblonski 2<sup>nd</sup>  
D. Hogan that Treasurer's report be accepted.

New member Bruce Parker was given his welcome  
pack. Outstanding welcome packs were also handed  
to Martin De Launey and Jilly Hampshire.

Louise thanked Lynne Phelan for taking the Novice  
Corner Workshop tonight on the topic of – How to  
increase your orchid collection at no cost.

**General Business:**

1. Louise reminded everyone that the 2020 Bishops  
card was available and could be collected from  
Tom.
2. Committee has decided that a change of venue  
was required for our General Meetings as Bo-  
maderry Bowling Club had advised the Society that  
they would be charging the Society \$280 per  
month from April to hold our meetings at the club.  
It was not considered sustainable for the Society.  
The Bomaderry Community Hall at 17 Birriley  
Street Bomaderry has been sourced from April  
onwards. There are tables, chairs, air conditioning,  
side access from the hall to accessible parking and  
a kitchen with cups (you may wish to bring your  
own cup or mug), plates etc. Maps of the hall's  
location were available. Meeting days and times to  
remain the same. The 3 Winter day time meetings  
are still being worked out. The 3 2020 Society  
Shows are still being held at Bomaderry Bowling  
Club and they are waiving the room hire costs for  
the shows. Committee members and Librarian  
were asked to store items that were normally  
stored at the Club.
3. Tonight is Orchid Auction Night. Louise thanked  
everyone that brought plants in for the auction.  
They all look great. Orchid plants purchased at the  
Auction will be allowed to be benched from our  
October Meeting and October Show.
4. The Society is still looking for a Newsletter editor.  
There was again a call out to members for some-  
one to fill this roll. Louise again thanked Lynne for  
temporarily filling the role of Editor.

5. As April's Guest Speaker Daniel Webb was unable  
to do his talk on "10 Ways not to kill a Phalaenop-  
sis" the Committee decided to do a Deflasking  
demonstration for the April Meeting. 2 flasks were  
ordered from Barrita Orchids of Sarcochilus Cross  
'Sarc. Elegance 'Super' x Sweetheart 'Speckles'.  
Each Member at the April Meeting will receive a  
plant and the plant will form part of our Growing  
Competition.
6. Committee has decided to save time in calculating  
the winners of the benching at each monthly  
meeting to introduce the use of counters. Blue  
counters for your favourite orchid in each class  
and a Red counter for your favourite orchid in  
Open, Intermediate and Novice. These counters  
will be placed in a cup that is in front of each or-  
chid. This should make things quicker and easier to  
calculate winners whilst saving on paper and  
printing. We hope to have everything in place for  
our April Meeting.
7. Louise thanked the Novices and Intermediate  
growers for their suggestions on Topics that they  
would like to see in Novice Corner. Committee has  
taken this onboard and is covering Deflasking at  
the April Meeting. More topics have been allocat-  
ed for future meetings.
8. Bunnings BBQ is on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. A call has  
gone out to members if they have any freezer  
room if required for left over sausages.
9. Louise thanked all the members that attended the  
working bee at Alan Stephenson's.
10. The 6 Thunia's that were to be distributed to  
members were not ready so this will be carried  
forward to April Meeting.

Supper was then served. Thank you to all members  
that supplied the treats.

The Orchid Auction was then held. A big thank you to  
our Auctioneer Richard Korber, who did a great job.  
Many great well priced plants were purchased and  
many members expanded their collections.

**Benching Results:** As published in the Monthly  
Benching Results in our Monthly Newsletter.

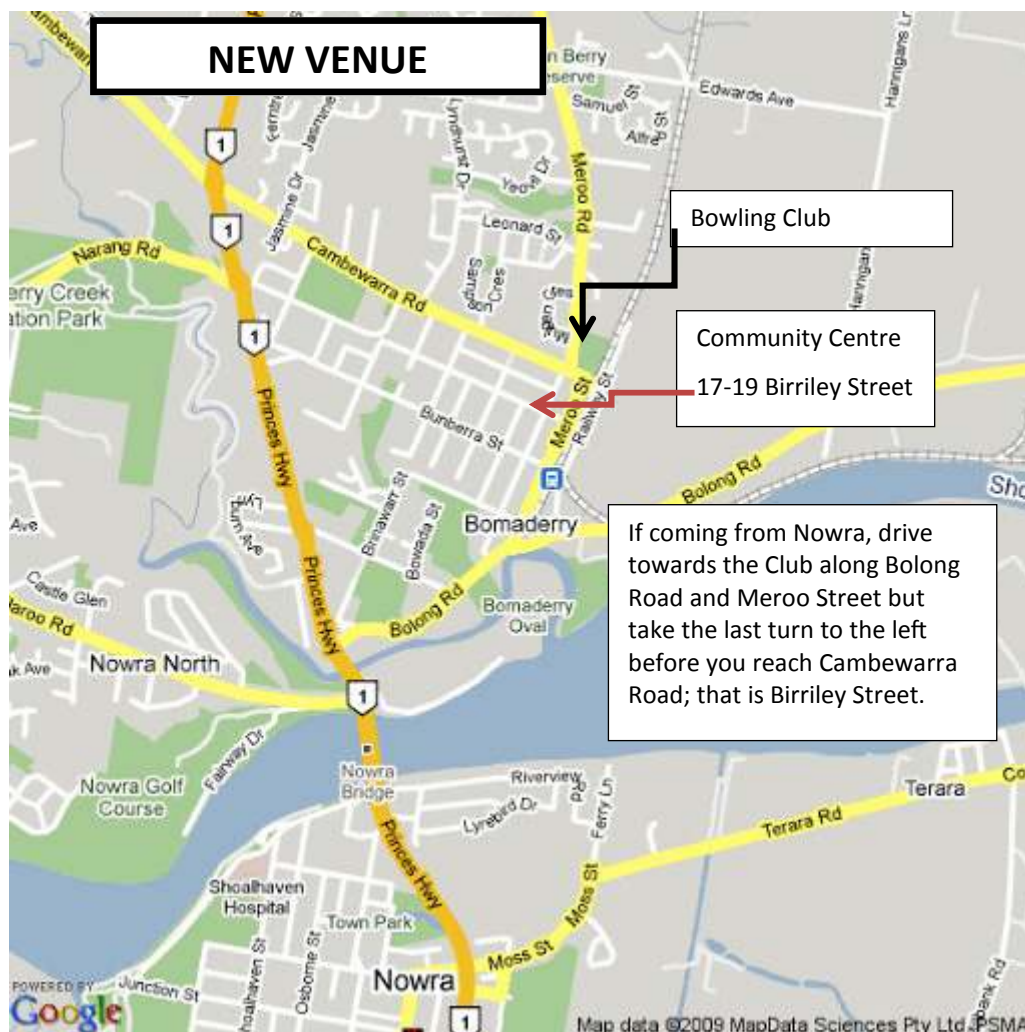
**Badge Draw:** Winner Belinda Wakefield.

**Raffle Winners:** F. Sikora, Y. Young, B. Parker, M.  
Martin, B. Wakefield and P. Harrington.

**Growing Competition Results:** Cymbidium – 1<sup>st</sup> L.  
Gannon and 2<sup>nd</sup> F. Sikora. Dendrobium – 1<sup>st</sup> Y. Young  
and 2<sup>nd</sup> R. Gunter

Louise then thanked everyone for attending and  
hoped everyone enjoyed the Auction and looking for-  
ward to seeing everyone at the April Meeting at our  
new location.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.



## Diary of a Reluctant Auction Bidder

The main activity at our meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> March was an auction of orchids. Because I have a very limited space at my Retirement Village home, I wasn't too keen to add any more plants to my collection.

Then a small, low growing plant of *Medio-calcar decoratum* was presented for auction. I'd had one of these cute New Guinea plants, but lost it (it could have dried out) when we moved from Hyams Beach to Berry. So I bid for it, and was pleased to get it for \$18.

Now having made a successful bid, and maybe infected by the enthusiastic offerings of Richard Korber, who was doing the auctioneering, I wondered if I might possibly bid for a species orchid if it took my interest.

It was now about halfway through the auction and a novel covered pot was presented. This was going to be like a 'Lucky Dip'. Richard announced that it was a fairly rare species, though the root development was needing improvement. Well Francoise Sikora was one of the helpers, and being handy made an opening bid of \$5. Before any of the rest of us, potential bidders had a chance, it was

awarded to Francoise and was revealed to be ..... a roll of toilet paper sitting on the orchid pot!!!! Rare indeed !! What a joke !!

Well I did get caught in and successfully bid for three other plants – a *Symphoglossum sanguinea*, a species from Ecuador ; a *Miltonia spectabilis*, a species from Brazil; and a *Laelia autumnalis*, a species from Mexico and it was mounted on a tree fern slab.

The whole auction activity was quite entertaining and fruitful.

The next day I entered the names of the new acquisitions in my Orchid Record book and gave them an identifying number. They went from 20/05 to 20/08. Then I went and squeezed them into spaces in the small shade house.

Lawrie Cowell

Editor's note:

There were 60 lots sold at the auction with only a handful of plants passed in and these were mainly duplicate divisions from a large oncidium that had been donated to the Society. No doubt they will be sold at our shows in future. It will be interesting to see whether members think our first orchid auction was a worthwhile activity that could become an annual event.

# 2020 Shoalhaven Orchid Society

## What's On at a Glance

### Committee Meetings 2020

TBA

### Society Meetings 2020

20 April - **NEW VENUE—CANCELLED**

18 May

15 June }

20 July } *Day Meetings to be decided*

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 6-24 October

### 2020 Guest Speakers

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.

Good marks for social distancing . Now, who will be the successful bidder for this treasure?

### 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.

**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 FOR THESE TWO** and *Sarc.* Elegance 'Super' x *S.* Sweetheart 'Speckles'

**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 *Sarc.* Elegance 'Super' x *S.* Sweetheart 'Speckles'.

