

Cymbidium Shoalhaven
'Touch of Class

SHOALHAVEN ORCHID SOCIETY

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Shoalhaven Orchid Society Inc.

NEWSLETTER JULY 2026

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COMMITTEE John Clancy, John Clarke, Sandra Ellis, Mary Ahonen, Will Fisher, Sue Montebello, Val Starling

EDITOR Wayne Lee wglee1964@gmail.com

LIFE MEMBERS Colin Marstin 2007, John Webb 2009, Lynne Phelan 2012, Allan Taylor 2014, Brian Phelan 2022, Sandra Ellis 2025.

Next Meeting: Saturday 18th July, 2026

Bomaderry Community Centre. 19 Birriley Street, Bomaderry.
Room opens at 9.00am for set up*; benching to be **finished** by 10.00am, Popular Vote 10.00am-10.15am, Novice Corner 10.15am -10.30am. Meeting commences at 10.30am. Many hands make light work.

Novice Corner: Stafford has kindly donated a Brassia verrucosa to be divided and 1 piece will be repotted. The remaining pieces will be given to Novice members to repot at home.





PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By all reports everyone enjoyed our 70th Anniversary luncheon. It was great to see our older members catching up with old friends and I am sure all members would have enjoyed hearing about and now being a part of our history.

It was an honour to have our invited guests with us on the day, Veronica Clowes President of OSNSW, OSNSW Orchid Judge, David Brooks and his wife Judith, Life Members, Colin Marstin, Alan Taylor, John Webb, Lynne & Brian Phelan and Sandra Ellis and wife and daughter of passed Life Member Alan Stephenson, Michelle and Kim, Keith Moody, President of Milton/Ulladulla Orchid Society accompanied by his wife Anne and our member, Bruce Mitchell, President of Illawarrra Orchid Society.

I thank committee for all your tireless work in various jobs and members who constantly assisted through the day and to my surprise there was not a pile of washing up to do at the end of the day (we all know what that's like!). Thank you to Diane Slye for assisting our chef Johno in the kitchen. It was a good move to have a professional cook the meat, serve the food and master the temperamental ovens in the kitchen.

Many thanks to Mary Ahonen who made our Anniversary Cake with our previous logo of a Lyrebird accompanied by our current logo – the yellow cymbidium flower Shoalhaven 'Touch of Class'. When cutting the cake there was a pleasing smell of fortified alcohol. Mary said that she had soaked the dried fruit for 3 months in alcohol which also gave the cake a rich dark colour and flavour. I hope you all drove home safely after eating it!!

The Memorabilia Table was a big hit with many members looking at photos, paper clippings, old newsletters, trophies and reminiscing of old times. Now to completing our society's history from 2021 to 2026. Any volunteers!

I am writing this report a few days before our Winter Show, and I hope that it will be another successful show for our members.

I am pleased that Margaret Goodman, President of Shoalhaven Kids in Need was able to make it to our June Meeting to thank members for their $950 gift, being the proceeds of our May Charity Auction. The charity really does a wonderful job assisting families with sick children.

We have a new sponsor with Shoalhaven Decorative Concrete coming on board and helping our society with a generous donation. We look forward to a long association with the company.

Potting mixes will be the topic for our July meeting. Members come along with questions and samples of your potting mix especially if it is a bit different to the bark and perlite that is commonly used. We are hoping for a good discussion.

Warm regards,

Louise

BENCHING RESULTS	**Month JUNE**	**Year 2026**
Class	Orchid Name	Name of Grower
	NOVICE	
Cymbidium	*Cym.* Unknown	C. Steele
Oncidiinae Alliance	*Onc.* Unknown	M. Davis
Australian Native/Native Hybrid	*Den.* Unknown	K. Carter
Miscellaneous orchid	*Paph. specerianum*	K. Carter
Novice Orchid of the Night	***Cym.* Unknown**	**C. Steele**
	INTERMEDIATE	
Dendrobium	*Den.* Saigon Passion	R. Bristow
Species orchid	*Cym. tracyanum*	R. Bristow
Laeliinae Alliance	*Catt. lobata* Semi alba 'Plush' x *L. purpurata striata*	B. Smythe
Cymbidium	*Cym.* Unknown	J. Cameron
Intermediate Orchid of the Night	***Cym.* Unknown**	**J. Cameron**
	OPEN	
Paphiopedilum – species/hybrid	*Paph. wenshangense* 'Favorlang' x *P.* Knight's Niveum 'Favorlang'	M&S Montebello
Oncidiinae Alliance	*Onc.* Lava Burst 'Puanini'	M&S Montebello
Dendrobium – species/hybrid	*Den.* YaYa Victoria 'Montebello'	M&S Montebello
Laeliinae Alliance	*Catt.(RLC>)* Jinn Fong Wish 'Classical'	L. Gannon
Vandaceous Hybrid	*V.* Packjong Blue	R. Korber
Species	*Bulbo.* Elizabeth Ann Buckleberry	W. Lee
Australian native hybrid	*Den.* Hilda Poxon 'Theo'	K. Coates
Australian native species	*Den. bigibbum alba*	L. Phelan
Cymbidium	*Cym.* Pharoahs Dream 'Barcelona'	W. Lee
Miscellaneous orchid	*Fredclarkeara* Turning Point	L. Watkins
Open Orchid of the Night	***Den.* YaYa Victoria ' Montebello'**	**M&S Montebello**
Species of the Night	***Den. glomeratum***	**R. Korber**
Hybrid of the Night	***Den*. Siriratana**	**M&S Montebello**
Assistant/ Benching Marshal's Choice	***Onc.* Lava Burst 'Puanini'**	**M&S Montebello**
Growing Competition	5 points Richard Korber; 3 points Stafford Lester; 1 point to Wayne Lee, Louise Gannon, Ron Findlater and Ray Bristow.	
Best Seedling	Paph. Montebello's Delight Ho	M&S Montebello
Number of plants benched 93 Number of Growing comp. plants 6 Number of seedlings 11		








Novice
Popular
Vote


Intermediate
Popular
Vote


Open
Popular
Vote






Benching


Best
Species


Best
Hybrid


Benching
Marshal's
Choice


SHOALHAVEN ORCHID SOCIETY INC.
JUNIOR / NOVICE / INTERMEDIATE / OPEN
CLASS.....
PLANT NAME.....
Paph. Montebello's Delight
SEEDLING

From The Committee

Banking -The Committee has decided to invest $10,000 of the Society money into a 12-month Term Deposit with Bendigo Bank to earn some interest.

Sponsorship- Thank you to Wayne Lee for obtaining sponsorship from Southcoast Decorative Concrete Supplies for $500, it will greatly help with our 3 annual shows.

By-Laws - Updated By-Laws have been emailed and handed to post only members, please let Francoise know if you have not received a copy.








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Botrytis

By Susan Jones

Take Precautions Now To Prevent This Fungus from Marring Winter Flowers

A fungal disease affecting many different types of herbaceous and woody plants, botrytis strikes during cool, damp weather in areas where air circulation is poor. On orchids, the disease, caused by Botrytis cinerea, causes unsightly brown spotting of blooms. The fungus most often affects Phalaenopsis and Cattleyas, but may be found in a wide range of orchid genera. Older flowers are highly susceptible to infection.



It is a shame to wait all year for flowers and then have them ruined by Botryris. The fungus is prevalent during cool, damp spells of winter.

Life Cycle

The fungus winters primarily on dead and dying plant material, and begins producing and dispersing spores during cool, damp weather in the spring or autumn. Damp conditions, rapidly rising humidity or disturbing infected plants may release spores into the surrounding growing area. Spores can be distributed by wind, rain or any mechanical action. Temperatures in the mid 60's to low 70's F (18–23 C), and wet plant surfaces or ambient humidity of at least 92 percent, are ideal conditions. The fungus can proliferate very quickly, infecting healthy plant tissue in as little as 14 hours.

Symptoms

Botrytis manifests as small, brown necrotic spots on orchid flowers. Those spots may increase in size and number as the infection progresses, and may be surrounded by a pale pink margin. In severe infections, the spots can coalesce, and gray, webbed fungal growth (mycelium) may become visible.

Prevention

The best form of control for botrytis is prevention, which involves sanitation, air circulation and careful watering. If conditions are proper, Botrytis spores can quickly spread from the lesions it makes.

Sanitation

Inspect the growing area for conditions favorable to botrytis. As this pathogen thrives and winters over on dead and dying plant material, remove any plant debris, spent or fallen flowers and leaves from the growing area to reduce the possibility of spreading the fungus. Some growers recommend removing and disposing of all affected flowers to help prevent the spread of the fungus, and even burning or burying of affected plant tissue.

Circulation

Keep plenty of fresh air moving through the growing area and around plants at all times. A stagnant, damp environment with inadequate air circulation promotes the growth of botrytis. Good air circulation is a necessity to prevent fungal infections year round, but most especially when plants are in bloom. Increasing the ambient temperature and air movement and decreasing the humidity during cool, damp weather will help eliminate any excess moisture on plant tissue, thus minimizing the chances of infection. In most areas, orchids grown outdoors already have the necessary air movement in their environment.

The Society thanks its generous sponsors.
We encourage members to support them.



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NOTICES

Bishops 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. Secretary Francoise has the new cards.
Library. Books! Our society has many great books for Speak to Robin who would be delighted to help you.
Attendance Book. Members and guests must sign the attendance book. This is required for insurance purposes. Our insurance cover applies to your attendance at any society organised event. ***If you don't sign, you're not covered***. Please sign beside your number given by the society.

COVID RESTRICTIONS Please observe the following:
1. Sanitise your hands with the hand sanitiser provided when you arrive.
2. Wearing a mask is optional. 3. If you are unwell, please do not attend.

2026 Shoalhaven Orchid Society

What's On at a Glance

Committee Meetings 2026

Tuesday 7th July 10.00am

Society Meetings 2026

***18th July* – We have a discussion on potting mixes**

15th August - TBA

21st September – Dylan Morrissey talking on Native Orchids of the South Coast

19th October- TBA

16th November- Jan Robinson - topic to be announced

15th December – Christmas Party/Presentations

Society Shows 2026

SOS Inc. Winter Show Saturday 11th July

SOS Inc. Spring Show Saturday 5th September

SOS Inc. October Show Saturday 17th October

Society Coming Events

Native Orchid Walk- TBA

Potting Day- TBA

Society Get-Together -TBA

Other Society Shows

MUOS

Winter Show 4th – 5th July

Spring Show 12th – 13th September

BBOFS

South & West Regional Workshop -21st -22nd March

Winter Show 18th-19th July

Spring Show 5th – 6th September

Native Show 17th-18th October

IDOS

Winter Show 4th July

Spring Show 12th September

October Show 24th October

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Growing Competition 2026

Please try to find and bring your growing competition plant. If you keep it with a distinctive coloured label it makes it easy to find.

Growing Competition plant to be brought in every 2nd month

February. Sarc. Bunyip 'Dark Horizon 'x Kulnura Bliss 'Orange Ring'

March- Nil

April. Sarc. Bunyip 'Dark Horizon 'x Kulnura Bliss 'Orange Ring'

May. Nil

June. Sarc. Bunyip 'Dark Horizon 'x Kulnura Bliss 'Orange Ring'

July. *Nil*

August. Sarc. Bunyip 'Dark Horizon 'x Kulnura Bliss 'Orange Ring'

September. - Nil

October. Sarc. Bunyip 'Dark Horizon 'x Kulnura Bliss 'Orange Ring'

November. Nil

December. Sarc. Bunyip 'Dark Horizon 'x Kulnura Bliss 'Orange Ring'

ORCHID EVENTS 2026

Orchids Out West – 15th-17th May.
Hawkesbury Showground, Clarendon

Mingara Orchid Fair and Show 27th & 28th June.
Mingara Recreation Club, Tumbi Umbi

National Orchid Extravaganza – 7th – 9th August.
The Arena Sports Club, Yagoona

St Ives Orchid Fair- 14th – 16th August.
St Ives Showground, St Ives.

Australian Native Orchid Show, Revesby Workers Club – TBA

Orchids Central- 18th – 20th September
Club Condell Park, Condell Pk.

OSNSW Summer Orchid Festival– 4th - 6th December
Georges Hall Community Centre, Georges Hall