

SOUTH AND WEST REGION ORCHID WORKSHOP

GUEST PRESENTERS

STEVE DUNSTAN – I am a passionate orchid hobbyist grower from Norah Head on the NSW Central Coast. I have been growing orchids for 40+ years but only started growing properly once I retired in 2014 and no longer have the 5 hours travel to Sydney.

Norah Head is located between Tuggerah Lake and the Ocean and has the ideal climate and conditions for growing most orchid genera – beautiful air movement all year. The main genera I grow are Australasian and Australian native species and hybrids of all type including hot and cold. I am currently President of Mingara Orchid Club, belong to 4 ANOS clubs and 3 Central coast general orchid societies. Orchid judging is a responsibility I enjoy being both an OSNSW/AOC judge and ANOS judge. Steve's two workshop topics – Australian Native Cymbidium Orchids species and hybrids including my culture for success and Den. Section Latouria species and some outstanding hybrids.

CRAIG MILES has been involved with propagating, growing, and showing orchids for over 35 years. Now in business for almost 5 years with Orchids of Distinction, a nursery/hardware business selling pots, fertilisers and orchid accessories. Craig specialises in breeding paphiopedilums and will have many plants available at the workshop ranging from tube seedlings to flowering plants, also an extensive range of species orchid flasks and select hybrids. Craig is very culture driven and tries to grow plants to be the very best they can be and assist fellow orchid growers in any way he can to achieve the same. Craig's two workshop topics are – Growing Paphiopedilums and Growing Miltoniopsis.

DAVID BROOKS has been growing orchids for over 50 years. During this time, he has been involved in various aspects of the orchid industry.

With a background in science, David set up Custom Tissue Culture which has produced ferns, carnivorous plants, eucalypts as well as most orchid genera.

He is an accredited AOC judge and registrar of the Cymbidium Club of Australia.

He has a broad interest in the hybridisation of all genera with a particular focus on Cymbidium, Odontoglossums and Sarcochilus orchids. David's two workshop topics – Sarcochilus and Cymbidium growing – beginners to advanced.

BRIAN PHELAN is a member of the Shoalhaven Orchid Society and has been growing orchids for around 40 years. My main interest is in cool-growing odontoglossums (oncidiums), masdevallias and miltoniopsis though, as with most orchid growers, my collection includes a good selection of other genera including some dendrobiums from PNG which don't mind the low-light conditions in my glasshouse. I lived in Canberra when I started growing orchids and the climate there suited my collection. Moving to the coast 20 + years ago proved challenging but, with much experimentation, I have managed to adapt my culture and keep the collection going. Brian's workshop topic – Growing Cattleya (*Sophranitis*) *coccinea* in sphagnum

MARTIN MONTEBELLO is a member of the Shoalhaven Orchid Society and has now registered an orchid selling business. He has been growing most types of orchids for over 30 years. He now specialises in paphiopedilums, phalaenopsis, oncidiums, hard cane dendrobiums, sarcochilus and cymbidiums. He sources quality flasks and tube stocks and at the workshop, will also be offering some limited divisions of awarded hybrid and species plants. Martin's greatest passions are orchid growing, conservation and the promoting of growing orchids as indoor plants. Along with how to successfully grow phalaenopsis orchids, will be the topics included in Martin's talk on Saturday.