




Cymbidium Shoalhaven
'Touch of Class'

SHOALHAVEN ORCHID SOCIETY

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PO Box 1022 Nowra NSW 2541

 Shoalhaven Orchid Society Inc.

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2026

PRESIDENT Louise Gannon lougannon@bigpond.com Ph. 0419 241 177

VICE PRESIDENT Martin Montebello orchid-hunter@hotmail.com

SECRETARY Francoise Sikora fsfrancoise@gmailmary.com

TREASURER Kerrie Carter kerriecarter10@gmail.com

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: **Monday NIGHT 20TH April**

Bomaderry Community Centre. 19 Birriley Street, Bomaderry.

Room opens at 6.00pm for set up*; benching to be **finished** by 7.00pm, Popular Vote 7.00-7.15pm, Novice Corner 7.15-7.30pm. Meeting commences at 7.30pm. Many hands make light work.

Guest Speaker: Will have questions around the room on the plants benched and how each member has grown them.

Novice Corner: Novice corner will be a few Open Growers taking a Q&A session, so prepare your questions.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I enjoy day light saving through the warmer months but now that we have gone back to normal hours of the day, I can feel the weather getting cooler with the change coming very subtly at first.

I have just taken off my shadehouse the extra layer of shadecloth I placed there before the heat of Summer arrived and now thinking about some hard cover for Winter.

On behalf of members, I send a cheerio to Martin de Launey who has been in hospital for 3 – 4 weeks. Martin, I hope your health is progressing well now and it's not too long before we see you back at our meetings.

Six of our members had a great weekend away in Bateman's Bay for the BBOS S/W Regional Workshop. We all enjoyed the interesting talks by guest speakers Jane Wright, Mike Pelior and our own Martin Montebello. Of course, we could not resist the purchasing of a few more orchids and overall, just relaxed and enjoyed the company of new and old friends. President, Dylan Morrissey and his committee did a great job organising the event at the Soldier's Club which is a great venue.

Our committee are putting the final touches to the organising of our 70th Anniversary lunch which is being held in the hall after our Saturday meeting on the 20th June. A buffet style with hot food is planned, dessert and finally our special anniversary cake made by Mary, and we all know how great her cakes look and taste. Looking back over 70 years, you can only begin to imagine the number of friendships members have made through their interest in orchids, members who have come and gone with time, ...and now, 70 years on, our society is celebrating and still going strong. Members who may have some interesting memorabilia from our society's past are encouraged to please bring it along for our Memorabilia table.

Our next meeting on Monday 20th April, will be a relaxed discussion on the orchids benched at the meeting. Members will be encouraged to share how they grow their orchids, their growing conditions and any tips they have learnt along the way.

Warm regards,

Louise

BENCHING RESULTS		Month February	Year 2026
Class	Orchid Name		Name of Grower
NOVICE			
Cymbidium	<i>Cym. Golden Elf</i> x <i>C. Golden Vanguard</i>		K. Carter
Novice Orchid of the Night	<i>Cym. Golden Elf</i> x <i>C. Golden Vanguard</i>		K. Carter
INTERMEDIATE			
Australian native species/hybrid	<i>Cestichis swenssonii</i>		S. Lester
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Brassidium</i> Golden Garmin 'White Knight'		S. Lester
Laeliinae Alliance	<i>Cattleya</i> Unknown		R. Wraight
Intermediate Orchid of the Night	<i>Brassidium</i> Golden Garmin 'White Knight'		S. Lester
OPEN			
Paphiopedilum – species/hybrid	<i>Paph. dianthum</i>		M.& S. Montebello
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Onc. (Odcdm)</i> Everglades Elegance		F. Sikora
Dendrobium – species/hybrid	<i>Den.</i> Black Jelly		M.& S. Montebello
Laeliinae Alliance	<i>Catt.</i> Caudebec x <i>C. Choco;ate Drop</i>		L. Gannon
Vandaceous Hybrid	<i>Phal.</i> Purple Butterfly		M.& S. Montebello
Species	<i>Phrag. besseae</i>		M.& S. Montebello
Australian native hybrid	<i>Den.</i> Ann's Rainbow		R. Korber
Australian native species	<i>Den. bigibbum</i>		R. Findlater
Miscellaneous orchid	<i>Catasetum</i> Susan Fuchs		R. Korber
Open Orchid of the Night	<i>Phrag. besseae</i> <i>Catasetum</i> Susan Fuchs		M.& S. Montebello R. Korber
Species of the Night	<i>Paph. dianthum</i>		M.& S. Montebello
Hybrid of the Night	<i>Onc. (Odcdm)</i> Everglades Elegance		F. Sikora
Assistant/ Benching Marshal's Choice	<i>Catt.</i> Caudebec x <i>C. Choco;ate Drop</i>		L. Gannon
Best Seedling	<i>Catt.</i> Interglossa f. coerulea 'Purple Tower' x <i>C. Leoloddigesii</i> 'Diamond Orchids'		L. Gannon
Growing Competition			
Number of plants benched	40	Number of Growing comp. plants	4





**Novice
Popular
Vote**



**Intermediate
Popular
Vote**



**Best
Species**



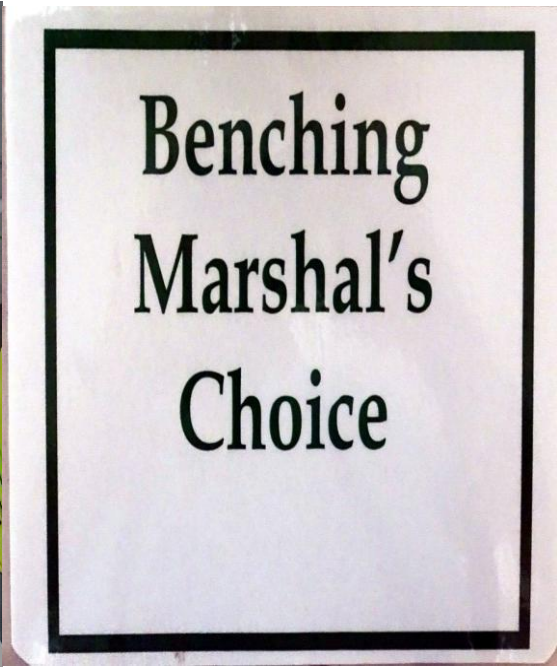
**Open
Popular
Vote**



**Open
Popular
Vote**



**Best
Hybrid**



From The Committee

New Member

We warmly welcome Denise Hochkins as a Novice Grower to our society. We hope that you will enjoy your time with us and learn lots about orchids.

Tables

We will be needing some extra Trestle tables for our June meeting 70th Anniversary lunch. Please let a committee member know if you are able to assist.

Bank Just a friendly reminder that our Commonwealth Bank Account is now closed and a new **Bendigo Bank** Account has been opened

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

An advertisement for Bishops. At the top is the Bishops logo, which consists of the word "BISHOPS" in a bold, red, serif font with a green leaf-like graphic above the 'S', and the tagline "EVERYTHING FOR PLANTS & ANIMALS" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font below it. The main text reads: "WE STOCK AN EXTENSIVE PRODUCT RANGE FOR ALL YOUR ORCHID NEEDS White and Coloured Labels _ Range of Orchid Growing Media... AND MORE! Take advantage of your VIP Customer Pricing PHONE FOR DELIVERY OR VISIT US AT 21 BELLEVUE ST, SOUTH NOWRA Ph: 4423 2359 Email: info@bishopsonline.com.au". The entire advertisement is enclosed in a green border.

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 Françoise 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 5th May 10.00am

Society Meetings 2026

20th April- TBA

18th May- Charity Auction

Saturday Day Meetings 10am – 1pm

20th June – 70th Anniversary Lunch

18th July – TBA

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

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