

Shoalhaven Orchid Society Inc.



Cymbidium Shoalhaven 'Touch of Class'

PATRON

The Hon. Shelley Hancock

PRESIDENT

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Don Hogan; John

Harriman; Val Starling

EDITOR

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AFFILIATED WITH

the Australian Orchid Council and the Orchid Society of N.S.W.

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Shoalhaven Orchid Society Inc

March 2021



**This year the Shoalhaven Orchid Society celebrates its
65th Anniversary.**

SOCIETY INFORMATION

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

NEXT MEETING

Monday 15 March 2021 at 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

March - Den. Australian Obsession 'Purple Paddle Pop' x Den. Starsheen 'Botanic Fireworks'



ATTENDANCE BOOK

Members and guests must sign the attendance book. This is required for insurance purposes.

If you don't sign, you're not covered.

Please sign beside your number given by the society.



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

65 Years in 2021



This year we celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the Shoalhaven Orchid Society. We turn 65 in April. Since its inception in 1956, the society has grown from strength to strength each year and still going strong. The committee is planning a special April meeting, so don't miss it. More information to follow. Let's make this a great year to remember.

COVID REGISTER



As well as signing the Attendance book, please also remember to sign the **COVID Register** and use the hand sanitiser provided when you arrive at the meeting.

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 ANNUAL REPORT

Well - what a year 2020 was. COVID has certainly changed the way we live.

Fortunately, Australia has fared better than many other countries with their pain and loss being immeasurable.

For our Society, the pandemic prevented us from having meetings in the months of April, May, June and for staging our 3 Annual Shows throughout the year. Members have been very conscious to social distance and use hand sanitizer when needed. Some members have decided not to come to meetings and we welcome them back when they feel it is time.

Our Committee persevered through months of not holding committee meetings. Instead, we emailed each other with agenda items. Finally, when we could meet under strict social distancing restrictions we met at Francoise's home. Talking of Francoise, thank you so much for your continuing hard work and keeping the wheels turning in your Secretary's role.

I would like to thank all our 2020 Committee which remained unchanged for 2 years. You have all done a wonderful job guiding our Society forward and as I have said a number of times, it has been an absolute pleasure to work with you all.

4 members of this Committee have decided not to nominate for 2021 –

Suzanne Knight has some ongoing health problems and we thank her for all the work she has done, particularly in the hall.

Diane Slye took on the role of Treasurer when Tom Gablonski stood down for personal reasons from that role. Di stepped forward without hesitation. Members maybe unaware that Di works closely with Meals on Wheels and the Salvation Army and can't continue to stretch herself any further.

Lynne and Brian Phelan as you all know have been absolute stalwarts of this Society and contribute so much to its smooth running. They are a great team. They will continue in their many roles at meetings and behind the scenes.

Lastly, our dear member, Phil Harrington who sadly passed away suddenly on the 4th February. Phil

was a highly regarded and loved member of our Committee and the Society. Phil had nominated to return to committee for this year. We will miss him very much.

I would like to thank Teresa for being our Auditor and for taking on the Editor's position. Alan and Yvonne for their photography at meetings, Richard our great Auctioneer. Robyn Gunter our librarian and Jenny Butterfield our First Aid Officer. Also members who helped with supper and to all who arrived early to set up and clear up after, without a fuss.

2020 saw us leave the comfortable surroundings of the Bomaderry Bowling Club for our meetings following the Bowling Club's proposed new charge of \$280 for using their function room each month plus an even greater expense for shows. It was all completely untenable. Fortunately, we were able to secure the Bomaderry Community Centre for our needs and I hope you all agree it has been a successful move.

A new Website was created last year with much of the groundwork done by Francoise and Lynne. Francoise continues to organise its update when necessary. It certainly is a great improvement on what we previously had. It now looks professional and continues to be liked by visitors to the site. We are indebted to our website designer Barbara Simmons who put in many hours of work for free.

At our August meeting we held a fund raiser for Ronald McDonald House. A worthy charity that allows families of sick children to stay together while the child receives treatment. \$1000 was raised at our mini-auction.

A few changes to our Constitution have been made by Committee and approved by members at the December meeting. We are waiting on approval from the Dept. of Fair Trading before putting them into place.

We thank our generous sponsors for their support; Nowra Zoo and Adventure World, Bishops, Royale Orchids, Bakehouse Delights, Apia, Bunnings Warehouse & Southern Business Machines.

Our Society continues to give me much pleasure and I am very thankful to be a part of an organisation that is warm and friendly.

I wish all members a successful and rewarding year of orchid growing.

Warm regards,
Louise Gannon

2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Held at Bomaderry Community Centre

17 Birreley Street, Bomaderry

Monday 15 February 2021

President Louise Gannon opened the meeting at 7.20 pm and welcomed all present. Only financial members are able to vote at the AGM.

President Louise Gannon also reminded members to social distance, use hand sanitiser as required and that all Members and Visitors must sign the Covid attendance sheet and the Society's attendance book.

Apologies were received from T. Bourke, S. Knight, Y. Young, R Young.

Minutes of 2020 AGM as displayed on the notice board and previously distributed to members were accepted as accurate.

Moved: John Clancy and **Seconded:** by Francoise Sikora.

President's Report for 2020 was presented by Louise Gannon and is attached.

Moved: Louise Gannon and **Seconded:** by Alan Stephenson that the report be accepted.

Treasurer's Report and Annual Financial Statement was read by Treasurer Diane Slye and displayed on the noticeboard.

Moved: Diane Slye and **Seconded:** Laurie Cowell that the report and Annual Financial Statement be accepted as presented.

The Auditor's Report was read by the Treasurer and given to the Secretary.

Returning Officer was appointed – Colin Marstin.

President Louise thanked all the outgoing Committee.

Colin then called for nominations after all positions had been declared vacant. Colin moved a vote of thanks to the 2020 Committee for the work done throughout the year. The following nominations were received and results shown.



Name	Position
Louise Gannon	President
Tom Gablonski	Treasurer
Sandra Ellis	Vice President
Francoise Sikora	Secretary
Don Hogan	Committee/Show Marshal
Val Starling	Committee
John Harriman	Committee
Ron Findlater	Committee
John Clancy	Committee
Vacant	Committee
Vacant	Committee
Vacant	Committee
Teresa Bourke	Newsletter Editor
Diane Slye	Public Officer
Sandra Ellis	WHS Officer
Brian Shelvey	First Aid Officer
Robin Gunter	Librarian
Teresa Bourke	Auditor
Vacant	Show Secretary

2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES (Cont'd)

Diane Slye did not stand for the Treasurer's position in 2021 and has to be removed as a signatory of the Shoalhaven Orchid Society Bank Account. Incoming Treasurer Tom Gablonski signature is to be added. Bank Account details are: CBA – 062 2585, account number 1026 3191
Account Name: Shoalhaven Orchid Society Incorporated

The signatories for 2021 are Louise Gannon, Tom Gablonski and Francoise Sikora. Any two of these three can sign.

Moved: Colin Marstin; **Seconded:** All members carried the motion.

A12 Form (Annual Summary of Financial Affairs) to be submitted to the Department of Fair Trading, and that the Public Officer Diane Slye will sign and submit.

The Returning Officer Colin Marstin congratulated the incoming Committee, thanked everyone for their participation and declared the 2021 AGM closed at 7.57pm.

Louise Gannon (President 2021)

BENCHING YOUR ORCHIDS AT A MEETING.

The Benching Marshal thanks members for ensuring that benching was completed in a timely manner at recent meetings. Please make sure all plants are benched in their correct sections **before 7.00pm**. If you are not sure where to put a plant please ask Don or another Open grower. If you are bringing in lots of plants please arrive early so you have time to complete benching before 7.00pm.



PARKING AT BOMADERRY COMMUNITY CENTRE

A reminder to members that the two parking spaces nearest to the rear door of the Community Centre are reserved for our less mobile members.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL for 2021

Membership dues remain at **\$30 Family, \$20 Single and \$10 Partner of Life Member**.

Payment can be made at a General Meeting, by cheque to the Society or by direct deposit to **Shoalhaven Orchid Society, BSB 062585, Account No. 10263191**.

Please remember to include your name in the 'description' if you are making a direct deposit so we know who it's from.

Please note: The changes to our Constitution have been approved by the Department of Fair Trade. Therefore if you have not renewed your membership for 2021, this will be the last newsletter you will received.

So hurry, don't miss out. Renew your membership now. We don't want to lose you.



IMPORTANT NOTICE

about your Bishop's discount card

The new discount cards are now ready for collection. Please bring your old card to the meeting to exchange for the new card. Treasurer Diane will have the new cards.

New cards will only be issued to 2021 financial members.

Supper While we are still operating under Covid 19 restrictions members should continue to bring their own cup/mug which you leave on the kitchen counter near the sign for the beverage of your choice – tea or coffee. The eats are provided by members on a voluntary basis and it seems to work if each member contributes a share plate to a few meetings each year.





PRESIDENT'S MARCH REPORT

We certainly have had some changeable weather lately with it being hot one day and raining the next. Our orchids are enjoying the conditions but as always, too much of a good thing can be detrimental. Watch for fungus and rot.

We welcome Val Starling and John Harriman to our 2021 Committee joining Sandra, Francoise, Tom, Ron, John and Don. I look forward to another year as President.

Thank you to Suzanne, Diane, Lynne and Brian who have stepped down and sincerely thank you all for your contribution. There are still 3 vacant Committee positions. Members, please consider being a part of our friendly Committee.

The sad and sudden passing of our dear friend, Phil Harrington has come as a great shock to us all. Phil was a hardworking Committee man who loved being behind our Sales Table at meetings and shows. He helped members and visitors alike, by giving sound advice. Phil's friendly smile was contagious. He will be sorely missed.

Our Member's Auction will be held at the next meeting. A chance to add a few more orchids to your collection at reasonable prices. A great fun night.

Looking forward to our April meeting when we celebrate our 65th Anniversary. Hoping to see a number of our Life Members attending. Jan Robinson will be our Guest Speaker.

Warm regards,
Louise



VALE PHIL HARRINGTON

Phil was a highly regarded member of the Shoalhaven Orchid Society.

Phil joined our Society back in 1999, left after some time and then returned in 2013. Phil was an excellent grower of orchids and grew a number of different genera. He also grew a variety of high-quality bromeliads and ferns which often won prizes at our shows – he certainly had green thumbs -- a natural gift.



Phil was always right at home behind our society's sales table, whether it was at our meetings or at our shows, quite often with his friend, member Ron Findlater beside him.

Together, they were affectionately known as – 'the Brothers'. Phil liked to help our novice growers in giving them advice on how to grow different orchids.

In April 2019 Phil joined our Committee and was a valued member. He was committed to seeing our orchid society flourish. Whatever the activity or task he was always keen to participate.

Phil had a number of interests away from orchids including keeping snakes and ten-pin-bowling.

Phil was hardworking, trustworthy, reliable, a little shy at times but if he knew you well you got to see his cheeky side. Phil always had a smile that in turn made you feel happy. Phil leaves a space that will not be easily filled and will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Our sincere condolences go to his wife Kim and his family.

Phil's service was held on Friday 19th February at the Shoalhaven Memorial Chapel. Thirteen Society members attended and a lovely orchid flower arrangement was sent on behalf of all members.

FEBRUARY GUEST SPEAKER - George and Mike from George and Mike's Orchid Supplies were our February guest speaker. They provided members with information about their products and how to use them. It was a great opportunity to obtain those orchid needs that are hard to find. Some of the items on display were stainless steel cutters, permanent marking pens, Inline fertilisers, UV treated tags, pots, baskets, misters and foggers and all those items that can't be sourced locally. If you missed out on getting what you want you can contact George by email gbirss@bigpond.net.au or phone **0409 521 869** or contact Mike mlh001@bigpond.net.au or 0407 553 693.
Website: <https://www.gandmorchidsupplies.com>

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

SALES TABLE A reminder to members that **all** sales must go through the sales table. The society's commission on sales is a small but important part of our revenue raising and a way our members can help support the club.



Advice from life member, Stuart Crowther, from a newsletter from previous years.

For the Soft Cane Dendrobium growers a timely reminder that the so-called magic date to finishing your fertilising program is St. Patrick's Day which is not far off*, keep the water up to your plants while the weather remains hot and then taper it off to once a week late in autumn. Remember never use high nitrogen fertilisers on these orchids, Campbells Yellow, Yeates Fruit and Flower and other similar fertilisers are suitable. You may ask what will happen to the plant if high nitrogen fertilisers are used, well there are two main effects:

1. Poor growth and flowering
2. Plants throw small new growths called "keikies" instead of flowers.

These small growths can be removed from the plant when the roots grow and a new plant is added to your collection, it will take a few years to develop into a reasonable plant with quite a few canes. These orchids are a wonderful plant to grow for all members and especially the novice growers. If you follow a few basic rules they will present you with a spectacular display of very colourful flowers in late September and through October.

*** St Patrick's Day 17 March**



LIBRARY

**Temporarily suspended
until further notice**

NOVICE CORNER

Between 7pm and 7.15pm newer growers can speak to experienced grower. 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'!

Brian Phelan will be speaking about fertilisers for orchids in this month's Novice Corner.

John Clancy is our Novice Corner Coordinator. 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 of expertise 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 4443 9072 or email john.clancy50@me.com.



WISH LIST

Looking for a special plant??

Email Teresa (email address front page) with
Your Name, Phone number & plant name
and I will add it to our newsletter.



Marie Martin - White Stanhopea

MARCH MEMBERS' ORCHID AUCTION



Bring your money because you will certainly want to snap up some of the bargains.

The annual auction in March will be an opportunity for members to sell some of their spare orchids and we will not have donated bric-a-brac items in the auction. It is an excellent opportunity for members to obtain some new plants that are proven to be happy growing in the Shoalhaven.

How does it work?

- Each financial member is able to put up to 6 orchids in the auction.
- The plants for auction should contain two (2) labels; one with the name of the plant and the other with the owner's name.
- You can put a reserve price on the plant if you wish by putting the word '**Reserve**' and the reserve price on the label. If the bidding doesn't reach the reserve you take your plant home.
- A coloured sticker will be placed on the plant to indicate it has a reserve price.
- Have a list of your orchids ready to give the auctioneer and mark those with a reserve clearly with the reserve price. You may wish to include brief relevant information on the list such as e.g. '***This orchid needs a dry rest in winter***', or similar cultural requirements to assist newer members to decide whether they will be able to grow it.
- The Society will take a 10% commission on the sales.
- All plants offered for sale must be disease and pest free, in a good healthy condition and have been repotted for at least 3 months.

HEAT STRESS

Dockrillia (Den). wassellii was hanging up fairly high in the shadehouse when we had a very hot day in January. It was on a hangar about 50cm from the roof (70% shade cloth with a plastic outer rain cover painted with whitewash).

This species is endemic to the ranges on Cape York Peninsula and my books says it requires high light which is why it was where it was. Hmm... High light maybe, but not high light AND 40+°C temp.!

When I came in to mist one morning I noticed that the tips of a number of the leaves were bleached white; obviously the excessive heat had boiled and bleached the plant tissue.



These sections are now shriveling and turning brown. On a different type of orchid leaf I would normally trim off the damaged part and seal the cut section but I don't think that would work with these fat little finger leaves. Fortunately it is only a minority of leaves that are affected so I think the plant will be OK if I just remove the whole damaged leaf.

Going back to the books I now realise that, while it grows near the top of rainforest trees in the tropics, it will have also have high humidity and good air movement. My shadehouse has no air movement in the upper half and the humidity would have been very, very low. There is no doubt that growing orchids is a lifelong learning process: you live and learn and hopefully don't kill too many orchids along the way.

Lynne Phelan

Benching Results - February 2021

Category	Plant	Owner
JUNIOR		
NOVICE		
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Miltoniopsis</i> Lillian Nakamoto 'Tanto'	T. Gablonski
Miscellaneous orchid	<i>Phal.</i> Unknown	R. Gunter
Novice Orchid of the Night	<i>Miltoniopsis</i> Lillian Nakamoto 'Tanto'	T. Gablonski
INTERMEDIATE		
Species orchid	<i>Bulb. macphersonii</i>	J. Harriman
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Wils.</i> Speckled Apple 'Mailika'	G. Douglass
Laeliinae Alliance	C. Mark Jones x <i>Slc.</i> Jungle Elf	J. Harriman
Miscellaneous orchid	<i>Bulb.</i> Santa Clause x <i>annandalei</i>	J. Harriman
Intermediate Orchid of the Night	<i>Wils.</i> Speckled Apple 'Mailika'	G. Douglass
OPEN		
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Onc.</i> Aka Baby 'Raspberry Chocolate'	H. Douglass
Laeliinae Alliance	C. Lulu Pink Blush	H. Douglass
Species	<i>Gongora scaphephorous</i>	D. Hogan
Miscellaneous orchid	<i>Phal.</i> Unknown	G. Jonas
Open Orchid of the Night	<i>Phal.</i> Unknown	G. Jonas
Orchid Species of the Night	<i>Bulb. macphersonii</i>	J. Harriman
Orchid Hybrid of the Night	<i>Wils.</i> Speckled Apple 'Mailika'	G. Douglass
GROWING COMPETITION		
Sarc. Elegance 'Super x S. Sweetheart 'Speckles'	1st. Ron Findlater 2nd. Francoise Sikora 1 point to L. Cowell, S. Ellis, L. Gannon, D. Hogan, B. Phelan, L. Phelan, B. Shelvey	

HOW WE DO THE POPULAR VOTE

- At monthly meetings our orchids are benched in three sections: Open, Intermediate and Novice.
- Each section is divided into various classes for different genera. There are 10 Open classes, 8 Intermediate classes and 5 Novice classes. (23 all together)
- Before the start of the meeting members are given a ziplock bag with 23 **blue counters** and three (3) **red counters** and are encouraged to have a good look at all the orchids benched.
- Members choose the orchid they like best in each class and put one **blue counter** in the cup in front of that orchid.
- After you have chosen your favourite orchid in each class you then need to choose your favourite orchid in that whole section and put one **red counter** in that one's cup.
- Then move on to the next section and do the same. You may have some **blue counters** left over if there are no exhibits in some classes.

JUDGING RESULTS FOR FEBRUARY 2021

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL



Prosthechea vitellina
L. Phelan



Open Popular Vote - **G. Jonas**



Cattley Lulu Pink Blush - **H. Douglass**



Novice Popular Vote - Miltoniopsis Lillian
Nakamoto 'Tanto'

T. Gablonski



Cattleya Chief Gem 'Red Jewel'
D. Hogan



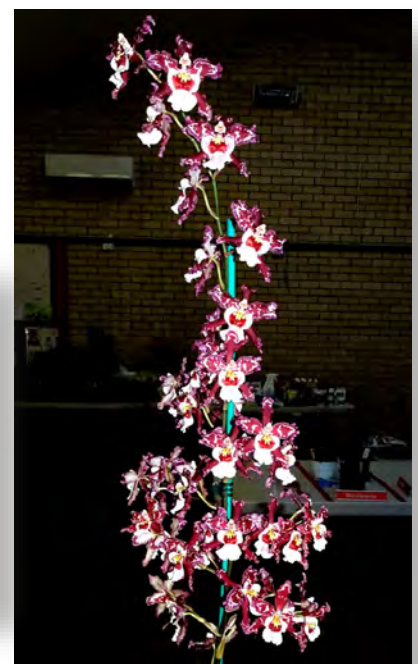
Open Species - Gongora
scaphephorous - **Don Hogan**



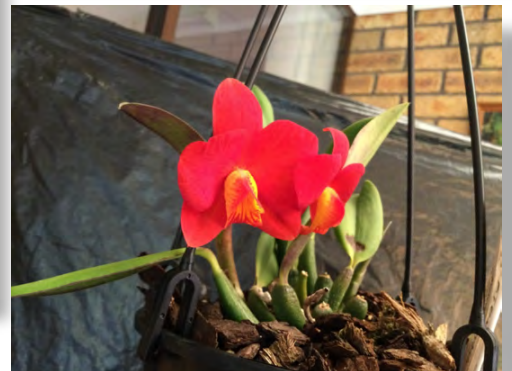
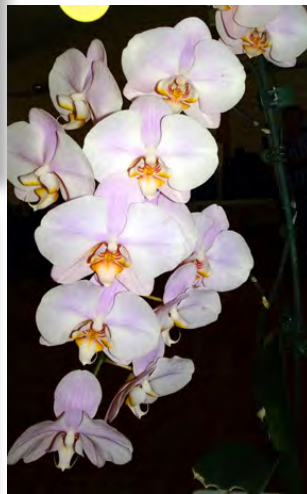
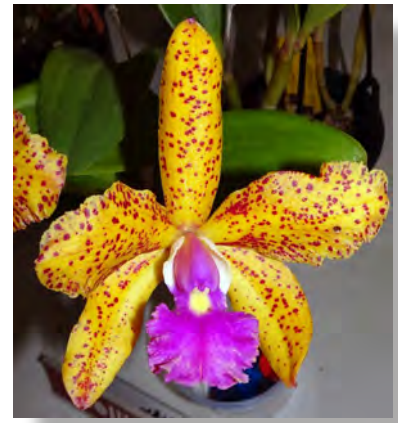
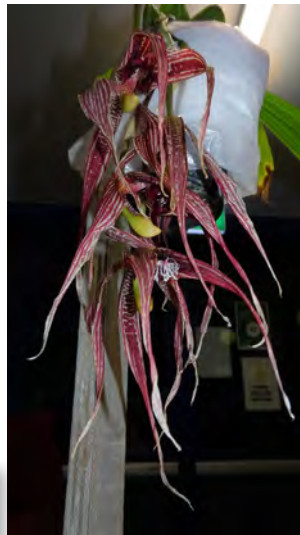
Bulb. macphersonii - **J. Harriman**



Phal. Unkown - **R. Gunter**



Species of the night -
Wils. Speckled Apple 'Mailika'
G. Douglass



Upcoming Orchid Events

Orchids Out West

14th, 15th, 16th May
(Depending on COVID)

Mingara Orchid Club Inc.

Fair and Show

26th – 27th June

BBOFS

Winter Show - 17th - 18th July
Spring Show - 4th – 5th September
Native Show - 16th – 17th October

MUOS

Winter Show - 3rd - 4th July
Spring Show - 11th-12th September
Native Orchid Show - 16th October

St Ives Orchid Fair
13th, 14th, 15th August



The Society Thanks our Generous Sponsors

We encourage you to support them.



NOWRA ZOO AND ADVENTURE WORLD



What's on at a Glance

COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2021

2nd March 2021	3rd August 2021
6th April 2021	7th September
4th May 2021	5th October
1st June 2021	2nd November
6th July 2021	7th December

GENERAL MEETINGS 2021

15th March - Members' Plant Auction

19th April

17th May

19th June }

17th July } Saturday Day Meetings

21st August } 10am – 1pm

20th September

18th October

15th November

20th December

SOCIETY SHOWS 2021

SOS Inc. Winter Show Saturday 10th July

SOS Inc. Spring Show Saturday 4th September

SOS Inc. October Show Saturday 23rd October

COMING EVENTS

Possible home visit - TBA

March - Members' Orchid Auction

August - Charity Orchid Auction

2021 GUEST SPEAKERS

February - George and Mike's Orchid Supplies

April - Jan Robinson - Orchid Experiments thanks to COVID19

May - Jane Wright - "What judges look for"

June - TBA

July - TBA

September - Mitch Kernaghan - Australian Natives

October - TBA

November - Gary Hart - Paphiopedilums

2021 GROWING COMPETITION

Please try to find and bring your growing competition plant each month. If you keep them grouped together with a distinctive coloured label it makes them easy to find. Let's give Lawrie a bit of competition this year!

March - Den. Australian Obsession 'Purple Paddle Pop' x Den. Starsheen 'Botanic Fireworks'

April - Laelia anceps 'Wallbrunn' x L. anceps 'Rosminah'.

May - Sarc. Elegance 'Super' x Sarc. Sweetheart 'Speckles'

June - Den. Australian Obsession 'Purple Paddle Pop' x Den. Starsheen 'Botanic Fireworks'

July - Laelia anceps 'Wallbrunn' x L. anceps 'Rosminah'

August - Sarc. Elegance 'Super' x Sarc. Sweetheart 'Speckles'

September - Den. Australian Obsession 'Purple Paddle Pop' x Den. Starsheen 'Botanic Fireworks'

Last Benching

October - Laelia anceps 'Wallbrunn' x L. anceps 'Rosminah'

November - Sarc. Elegance 'Super' x Sarc. Sweetheart 'Speckles'

December - TBA

*Note: 'Rosminah' is the spelling used by the hybridiser, Cal Orchids.

