




Cymbidium Shoalhaven
'Touch of Class'

SHOALHAVEN ORCHID SOCIETY

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PO Box 1022 Nowra NSW 2541

 Shoalhaven Orchid Society Inc.

NEWSLETTER MAY 2026

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

VICE PRESIDENT Martin Montebello orchid-hunter@hotmail.com

SECRETARY Francoise Sikora fsfrancoise@gmail.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 18th May, 2026**

Bomaderry Community Centre. 19 Birriley Street, Bomaderry.

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

MAY MEETING : ANNUAL CHARITY AUCTION

Novice Corner: John Clancy will be "Repotting some Dendrobiums from Tubes" and then they will be part of the night's raffle.

SOS 70TH ANNIVERSARY LUNCH

Will be held in the hall directly following the June Meeting on Saturday 20th June. Members, come along and celebrate this momentous occasion.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

What great weather we have been having lately with warm Autumn days with very little rain. I hope it continues.

Looking forward to our next meeting when we hold our Charity Auction. All monies raised will be going to the very worthwhile charity, Shoalhaven Kids in Need. Once again Richard Korber will be our auctioneer ably assisted by 3 of our open members. They always do a great job and it's always a fun night. Thankyou members who plan to donate some of their orchids, it is appreciated. Likewise, it is a great opportunity for members to buy orchids and add to your collection. Please see more info, in this newsletter.

Our committee recently ordered and received a lovely lot of new seedlings for our monthly raffle prizes from Hao, owner of King's Nursery in Victoria. The order included forty native seedlings, 10 pendulous cymbidium seedlings and 2 sartylis seedlings. Together with the 20 good sized cymbidium seedlings that Bruce Mitchell grew and the 20 seedlings left over from our Christmas prize that Martin has given quite a bit of TLC to and are now growing well. The combination of these seedlings will give a good variety for raffle prizes for the remaining months of the year.

It was good to hear that Martin de Launey is now home from hospital and is recovering well.

Looking forward to seeing you all at our May Meeting.

Warm regards,

Louise



BENCHING RESULTS		Month April	Year 2026
1	Orchid Name	Name of Grower	
NOVICE			
Laeliinae Alliance	<i>Rlc. Aussie Gold 'Big and Bold'</i>	R> Ballard	
Novice Orchid of the Night	<i>Rlc. Aussie Gold 'Big and Bold'</i>	R> Ballard	
INTERMEDIATE			
Paphiopedilum	<i>Paph. spicerianum</i> Goliath	J. Cameron	
Australian native species/hybrid	<i>Den. Australian Obsession</i>	J. Cameron	
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Oncidium</i> Unknown	B. Smythe	
Laeliinae Alliance	<i>Laelia</i> Unknown	R. Wraight	
Miscellaneous orchid	<i>Catt.</i> Unknown	J. Cameron	
Intermediate Orchid of the Night	<i>Oncidium</i> Unknown	B. Smythe	
OPEN			
Paphiopedilum – species/hybrid	<i>Paph. dianthum</i>	M&S Montebello	
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Onc. Sweet Sugar 'Lemon Drop'</i>	M&S Montebello	
Dendrobium – species/hybrid	<i>Den. LD Red</i>	G. Jonas	
Laeliinae Alliance	<i>Rlc. Nakorrchaisri Red</i>	L. Gannon	
Vandaceous Hybrid	<i>Vanda Pachara Delight Blue</i>	L. Gannon	
Species	<i>Encyclia cochleate</i>	J. Clarke	
Open Orchid of the Night	<i>Rlc. Nakorrchaisri Red</i>	L. Gannon	
Species of the Night	<i>Paph. dianthum</i>	M&S Montebello	
Hybrid of the Night	<i>Den. Jade Junior</i>	M&S Montebello	
Assistant/ Benching Marshal's Choice	<i>Catt. Mona Pink</i>	R. Findlater	
Growing Competition	5 points R Findlater, 3 W. Lee, 1 each R. Bristow and C. Steel		
Seedling of the Night	<i>Paph. Montebello's Delight Ho</i>		
Number of plants benched 56		Number of Growing comp. plants 5	Seedlings 9





SOS ANNUAL CHARITY ORCHID AUCTION

Next Meeting – 18th May

This year our society has chosen to support the local charity Shoalhaven Kids in Need. They are a lesser-known charity who give assistance to families who have very sick children. Members will be pleased that all money raised from our auction will help give support to this very worthwhile charity.

Members are asked to please donate up to 6 orchids, foliage plants or orchid books to our Charity Auction. Members, please don't feel obliged to donate if you only have a small number of orchids but you may on the other hand like to bid on some of the orchids on offer, therefore increasing your orchid collection.

All orchids offered for auction must be disease and insect free and be well established in the pot.

Payment for your purchases will be after the Auction has been completed. Treasurer Kerrie with Françoise's assistance, will keep a tally of member's purchases. Payment by cash or EFTPOS.

Thankyou members for your very kind donations, it is greatly appreciated. Good luck to all in winning the orchids you bid on.

Louise

From The Committee

New Member - We warmly welcome New Member Robyn Presdee as a Novice. We hope that you will learn all about orchids and enjoy your time with us.

Auction - May meeting is our Charity Auction Night, members are reminded that they can donate up to 6 healthy Orchid plants, Foliage Plants and Ferns for the Auction. Don't forget to bring a bag or a box to take your purchases home.

Bunnings BBQ - On Sunday May 31st, we are still looking for a few more volunteers. If you can spare some time please contact Françoise. This is our main fundraising for the Society.

June Meeting - will be our 70th Anniversary with a luncheon put on by the Society to be held after the meeting.

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 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

18th May- Charity Auction

Saturday Day Meetings 10am – 1pm

20th June – 70th Anniversary Lunch

18th July – Members discussion about 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

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