




*Cymbidium Shoalhaven*  
'Touch of Class'

# SHOALHAVEN ORCHID SOCIETY

Website: [www.shoalhavenorchidsociety.org.au](http://www.shoalhavenorchidsociety.org.au)

Email: [shoalhavenorchidsociety@gmail.com](mailto:shoalhavenorchidsociety@gmail.com)

PO Box 1022 Nowra NSW 2541

 Shoalhaven Orchid Society Inc.

## NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2025

**PRESIDENT** Louise Gannon [lougannon@bigpond.com](mailto:lougannon@bigpond.com) Ph. 0419 241 177

**VICE PRESIDENT** Martin Montebello [orchid-hunter@hotmail.com](mailto:orchid-hunter@hotmail.com)

**SECRETARY** Françoise Sikora [fsfrancoise@gmailmary.com](mailto:fsfrancoise@gmailmary.com)

**TREASURER** Kerrie Carter [kerriecarter10@gmail.com](mailto:kerriecarter10@gmail.com)

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

**EDITOR** Wayne Lee [wglee1964@gmail.com](mailto: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 15<sup>th</sup> December**

**Bomaderry Community Centre. 19 Birriley Street, Bomaderry.**

Room opens at 6.30pm for set up, benching to be **finished** by 7.00pm, Popular Vote 7.00-7.15pm, Meeting commences at 7.15pm. Many hands make light work.



## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The year has just flown by and here we are in December with Christmas not too far away.

Our December meeting is usually a fun night of Presentations and of course, our Christmas Party. It's a good time of year to enjoy each other's company and congratulate the winners of our Annual Benching Competition. Like last year our society is catering for the party so there is no need to bring anything, except cutlery if you wish, and a mug for tea and coffee. Lynne has prepared a Trivia Quest. for us, so come with your thinking caps on! Later in the evening we will have our Giant Raffle which is always a lot of fun – even more fun when you win something! A small seedling will be gifted to our members.

At our November meeting we welcomed two new members, Ron Howlett and Luke Williams. We look forward to you both being a part of our society. Congratulations to Stafford Lester and John Cameron who have been elevated from Novice Class to Intermediate Class while Sandra Ellis and Wayne Lee have been elevated to Open Class.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our committee who continue to do a wonderful job. Thankyou members who help out through the year, photographing, editing, working on the sales table, placing banners out for shows, selling raffle tickets, placing tables and chairs out, assisting at suppers, marshalling etc. Your assistance makes our meetings and shows run smoothly and your work is very much appreciated.

2026 will be an exciting year for our society with our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary being celebrated at our June Meeting.

There will be no meeting in January. The February Meeting is our AGM and all committee positions become vacant, even the President's position. If you would like to nominate please ask our Secretary, Françoise at the December or February Meeting for a Nomination Form. Forms need to be received at least 15 minutes before the AGM starts.

A gentle reminder that Membership Fees are now due. Please see our Treasurer Kerrie at the December Meeting.

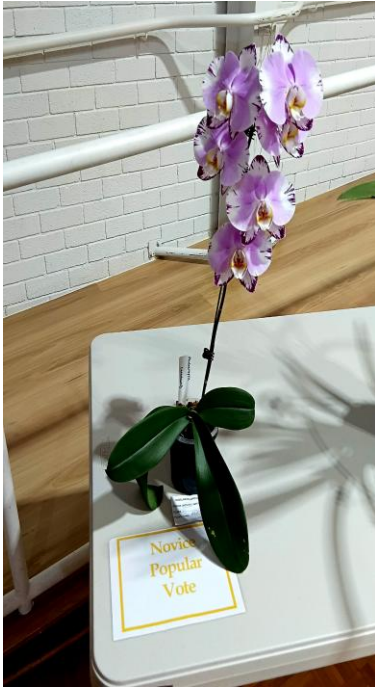
I wish all members and their families a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Warm regards,

Louise



<b>BENCHING RESULTS</b>		<b>Month</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>Year 2025</b>
Class	Orchid Name		Name of Grower	
<b>NOVICE</b>				
Oncidiinae Alliance				
Laeliinae Alliance	Caltt. Rosella's Magic Jewels		R. Ballard	
Miscellaneous orchid	<i>Phal. Unknown</i>		S. Lester	
<b>Novice Orchid of the Night</b>	<b><i>Phal. Unknown</i></b>		<b>S. Lester</b>	
<b>INTERMEDIATE</b>				
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Brassia Unknown</i>		R. Wraight	
Species	<i>Encyclia pentotis</i>		W. Lee	
Miscellaneous orchid	<i>Phal. Unknown</i>		R. Bristow	
<b>Intermediate Orchid of the Night</b>	<b><i>Phal. Unknown</i></b>		<b>R. Bristow</b>	
<b>OPEN</b>				
Paphiopedilum – species/hybrid	<i>Paph. hirstissimum var esquiroles</i>		M & S Montebello	
Dendrobium – species/hybrid	<i>Den. Areedang 'Orchid World'</i> <i>Den. Mousmee</i>		M&S Montebello L. Gannon	
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Milt. Andy Easton x M. Alderwood</i>		B. Phelan	
Laeliinae Alliance	<i>Catt. Aquifinn 'Nature's Best'</i>		G. Jonas	
Vandaceous Hybrid	<i>Phal. Alice</i>		M & S Montebello	
Species	<i>Tricopilia hennisiana</i>		B. Phelan	
Australian native hybrid	<i>Sarc. Bonjean</i>		L. Phelan	
Australian native species	<i>Cym. canaliculatum</i>		J. Clarke	
Cymbidium	<i>Cym. Black Stump</i>		R. Findlater	
<b>Open Orchid of the Night</b>	<b><i>Tricopilia hennisiana</i></b>		<b>B. Phelan</b>	
<b>Species of the Night</b>	<b><i>Tricopilia hennisiana</i></b>		<b>B. Phelan</b>	
<b>Hybrid of the Night</b>	<b><i>Cym. Black Stump</i></b>		<b>R. Findlater</b>	
<b>Benching Marshal's Choice</b>	<b><i>Phal. Unknown</i></b>		<b>R. Bristow</b>	
<b>Growing Competition</b>	<b>5 points Kay Morrison, 3 points Stafford Lester, 1 point John Clark, Ron Findlater, Wayne Lee and Kris Wallis.</b>			
<b>Number of plants benched</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>Number of Growing comp. plants</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Seedlings</b>
				<b>3</b>





## **From The Committee**

**December Meeting-** No Novice Corner or Sales Table. It's our Christmas Party. All food and drink will be supplied. Bring some cutlery and a mug for tea/coffee. Don't forget to bring something for the Big Raffle. December is the start of the new benching year.

**For New Members** - There is no meeting in January. Our next meeting will be in February, which is also our AGM. All members please consider joining the Committee, fresh ideas are always welcomed.

**Membership** - 2026 membership fees are now due. \$20 - single, \$30 - Family (living at the same address). Can be paid by cash or eftpos at the December meeting or can be directly deposited into our bank account. BSB 062-585 Account Number 1026-3191 Please reference your name so we know who has paid.

**Anniversary Year** - 2026 will be our 70th Anniversary year. The Committee has selected June 20th to celebrate. Further information to come next year.

**South West Regional Conference** - will be hosted by Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Society in Batemans Bay on the 19th & 20th March 2026. Further information to come.

**Merry Christmas** - The Committee would like to wish all our members a Happy Christmas and New Year, also, a safe one if travelling. For those who may not be attending the Christmas Party we look forward to seeing you in the New Year

**DECEMBER MEETING**  
*Annual Prize Presentation*  
*and*  
*Christmas Party*

The evening will commence as usual with orchids benched by 7pm.

Member's voting from 7pm. there will be no Novice Corner. Meeting to start at 7.15pm with society information for members.

Following –

**ANNUAL PRIZE PRESENTATIONS**

**A 12 QUESTION TRIVIA QUEST.**

**CHRISTMAS PARTY** – Our society will be catering for the party. The meal will be –

Ham (expertly sliced by Martin), prawns, chicken, salads – green, potato and coleslaw.  
Bread roll.

Desert – fruit salad and ice cream

Christmas Cake – kindly made by Mary Ahonen

Soft drinks, juice and bottled water available

Paper plates etc. will be provided, knives and forks from the kitchen, or you may wish to bring your own cutlery along with your cup for tea/coffee

**GIANT RAFFLE** – please bring along a suitable gift for our raffle, something you would like to receive yourself. Orchids, orchid products, wine, chocolates etc. are always popular

**GIFTED ORCHID** – each member will receive a seedling from our society

**LUCKY DOOR PRIZES**

**BENCHING & GROWING COMP. RESULTS**

**LUCKY BADGE DRAW**

**PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO SALES TABLE ON THE NIGHT.**

*Hope to see you all there for a fun night!*

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.**

2025 Shoalhaven Orchid Society  
*What's On at a Glance*

**Committee Meetings 2025**

**Society Meetings 2025**

15<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Party

**Society Shows 2025**

**Society Coming Events**

Native Orchid Walk- TBA

Potting Day- TBA

**Other Society Shows**

**MUOS**

**BBOFS**

**IDOS**

**Growing Competition 2025**

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.

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

**ORCHID EVENTS 2025**

OSNSW Summer Show, Ermington Main Hall,  
Ermington 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> December

THE SHOALHAVEN ORCHID SOCIETY MEETS ON THE **THIRD MONDAY** OF THE MONTH- at **7.00 PM**  
IN THE BOMADERRY COMMUNITY CENTRE, 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.