



Cymbidium  
Shoalhaven

# 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 APRIL 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** Francoise Sikora [fsfrancoise@gmail.com](mailto:fsfrancoise@gmail.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 21st April**

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

Room opens at 6pm 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:** Richard Kober on Australian Bees

**Novice Corner:** Lynne Phelan on reporting Sarcophilus



THE SHOALHAVEN ORCHID SOCIETY MEETS ON THE **THIRD MONDAY** OF THE MONTH- at  
**7.00 PM** IN THE BOMADERY COMMUNITY CENTRE, 19 BIRRILEY STREET, BOMADERY.

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 REPORT

I am glad to see the rain has stopped for a while to allow our orchids to dry out a bit. It makes me think that I must start soon to put a hard roof on parts of my shadehouse before the cold and wet of winter arrives.

Our Bunnings BBQ is fast approaching – Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April. I hope by now all the spots have been filled on the roster. These BBQs are our major Society fundraiser, allowing us to buy raffle prizes, growing comp. plants, show ribbons, pay for hall hire, Christmas party, Guest Speakers, Shows and Show judges and more. Over recent years our committee have done extremely well in conserving funds. We are not out to build wealth but use our society money wisely and most importantly for the benefit of our members. Without the BBQs our finances would be going backwards. It is very important that we continue to try to have 2 BBQs a year, but this can only be done with your support. In 2 years' time our society will be hosting the S/W Regional Show & Conference in Nowra and we will certainly be needing funds to host this event successfully.

Our society is looking forward to this years S/W Regional Show & Conference being held in Canberra in September. A design committee has been formed to plan our 2m x 2m floor display for this event.

A social day out for members has been organised for Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June (wet weather permitting) at member Ron Findlater's home in Worrigea. As you know Ron grows beautiful Aust. native orchids plus a good selection of other orchids. We are hoping to have a Guest Speaker visit and lunch will be provided. It will be a great social day out for all members to enjoy. Please not the date in your diary. More information to follow.

April Meeting: Now is a good time to re-pot *Sarcochilus* orchids. Lynne Phelan will be taking Novice Corner to show us how it's done. Richard Korber will be our Guest Speaker, talking about Australian native bees.

Looking forward to seeing you all at our April Meeting.

Warm regards,

Louise



BENCHING RESULTS		Month March	Year 2025
Class	Orchid Name	Name of Grower	
NOVICE			
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Miltoniopsis</i> Lillian Nakamoto ‘Tanto’	Kerrie Carter	
Laeliinae Alliance	<i>Catt.</i> ‘Heloise’	Martin deLauney	
Species	<i>Catt. bowringiana</i>	Martin deLauney	
Miscellaneous orchid	<i>Sartylis</i> Toowoomba Sparkle ‘Coconut Ice’	Anne-Marie Collins	
Novice Orchid of the Night	<i>Miltoniopsis</i> Lillian Nakamoto ‘Tanto’	Kerrie Carter	
INTERMEDIATE			
Species orchid	<i>Gongora galeata</i>	Wayne Lee	
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Miltonia</i> Anne Warne	Wayne Lee	
Intermediate Orchid of the Night	<i>Gongora galeata</i>	Wayne Lee	
OPEN			
Paphiopedilum – species/hybrid	<i>Paph.</i> Eagle Peak ‘Gold Toms’ x <i>Paph.</i> Armeniacum	M & S Montebello	
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Odontoglossum</i> Gilded Tower ‘Mystic Maze’	Gary Jonas	
Dendrobium – species/hybrid	<i>Den.</i> Jade Junior	M & S Montebello	
Laeliinae Alliance	<i>Blc.</i> Haw Yuan Beauty Kong x <i>Lc.</i> Susan Holcombe	Francoise Sikora	
Vandaceous Hybrid	<i>Vanda</i> Pachara Delight Blue	Noelene Weatherby	
Species	<i>C. bowringiana</i>	Louise Gannon	
Australian native hybrid	<i>Den.</i> Red Ballerina	Richard Korber	
Miscellaneous orchid	<i>Masd.</i> Red Wing	M & S Montebello	
Open Orchid of the Night	<i>Den.</i> Jade Junior	M & S Montebello	
Species of the Night	<i>C. bowringiana</i>	Louise Gannon	
Hybrid of the Night	<i>Den.</i> Jade Junior	M & S Montebello	
Assistant Benching Marshal’s Choice	<i>C. bowringiana</i>	Louise Gannon	
Growing Comp. <i>Den.</i> Phena’s Charm ‘Genesis’ x <i>Den. speciosum</i> ‘Moonmere’	Louise Gannon 5, John Clarke 3, Mary Ahonen, Sandra Fisher, Will Fisher, Richard Korber, Wayne Lee, Martin Montebello, Sue Montebello, Francoise Sikora, Val Starling, Coleen Steel, Noelene Weatherby 1pt. each		
Number of plants benched		43	Number of Growing comp. plants 13
Thanks to John Clarke, Francoise Sikora and martin Montebello for recording the results.			





Novice  
Popular  
Vote

Intermediate  
Popular  
Vote



Best  
Species

Benching  
Marshal's  
Choice

Open  
Popular  
Vote

Best  
Hybrid





## **From The Committee**

**Bunnings BBQ Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April** We are in urgent need of volunteers, even if you can only help for a couple of hours. We need people between the hours of 11am – 1.30pm. Please let Louise or Francoise know if you can help.

**May Charity Auction** just an early reminder that our Charity Auction will be held at the May meeting. Have a look through your plants and see if there are any you would like to donate. There is a maximum of 6 plants from each member. We are supporting North Shoalhaven Meals on Wheels this year. There is a need in the community.

### **South & West Regional Show**

Being held on the 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> September (Set up is the 19<sup>th</sup>) in Canberra. If there is anyone interested in being involved in planning the display, please contact Louise or Francoise for further information.

### **Mark Your Calendar, Society Social Day**

Is being planned to be held at Ron Findlaters home on Sunday June 1<sup>st</sup>. Further information will be made available.

### **Show Schedules**

There have been some changes made to the show schedules, There will be a Champion Specimen Orchid and a Champion Seedling orchid added to the Champions Table for each show. Other changes will be available on the show Schedules for each show.

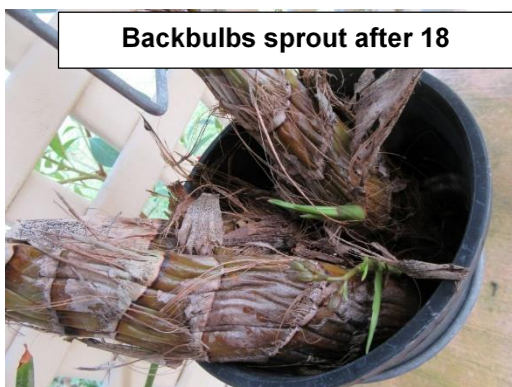
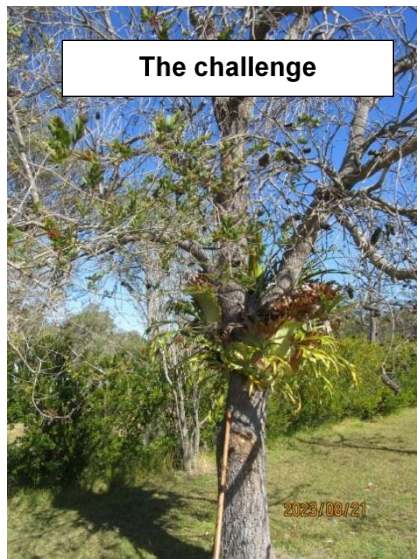




## We Aussies are Tough

Lynne Phelan

This is a story of orchid resilience. Many years ago, probably 15-20, I tucked a small plant of the Australian native *Cymbidium madidum* in behind an elkhorn fern which was growing on a banksia tree in our backyard. In time, it and the fern grew happily and the madidum flowered regularly. Sadly, in 2023 the banksia died and, without protection from its foliage, the fern and the west-facing madidum were going to be fully exposed to the full force of the sun. In August the decision was made to move them so the dead tree could be removed. By this stage the elk fern had totally encircled the tree trunk at head height and the madidum had grown into a huge specimen. Saws, crowbars and brute strength were needed but eventually the job was done. The huge madidum was divided into two really large plants and potted up while a few backbulbs were put in an empty pot and hung on the verandah where they were misted almost every day as I did my watering. On 15 February, 2025 I noticed a couple of green shoots and a tiny flower spike which opened in March. Still no roots so I'm not sure if they will survive.



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



**SHOALHAVEN  
ZOO**



**BISHOPS**  
EVERYTHING FOR PLANTS & ANIMALS

WE STOCK AN EXTENSIVE PRODUCT RANGE FOR  
ALL  
YOUR ORCHID NEEDS

\_\_\_ Campbell's Orchid Fertilizer \_\_\_ Clear Phalaenopsis  
Pots

\_\_\_ 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 Fax: 4423 7180

**MONTEBELLO SLIPPER  
ORCHIDS**

SPECIALISING IN SLIPPER ORCHIDS  
FOR OVER 20 YEARS

CONTACT MARTIN ON:  
PH: (02) 44466-177  
MOBILE: 0431-533-864

## 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**

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 10.00am

### **Society Meetings 2025**

**21<sup>st</sup> April-** Richard korber on Australian Bees

**19<sup>th</sup> May-** Charity Auction

**Saturday Day Meetings 10am – 1pm**

**21<sup>st</sup> June – Brian/Martin “How to prepare your Plants for a Show”**

**19<sup>th</sup> July – TBA**

**16<sup>th</sup> August –Ken Coates “Growing Orchids in a Cooler Climate”**

**15<sup>th</sup> Sept – Richard Dimon,his trip to Borneo and Peninsula Malaysia**

**20<sup>th</sup> October-** Neutrog Representative

**17<sup>th</sup> November-** TBA

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

### **Society Shows 2025**

**SOS Inc. Winter Show Saturday 12th July**

**SOS Inc. Spring Show Saturday 30th**

**August**

**SOS Inc. October Show Saturday 18th**

**October**

### **Society Coming Events**

**Native Orchid Walk-** TBA

**Potting Day-** TBA

**Society Get-Together 1<sup>st</sup> June**

### **Other Society Shows**

#### **MUOS**

Winter Show 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> July

Spring Show 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> September

#### **BBOFS**

Winter Show 29<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> July

Spring Show 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> September

Native Show 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> October

#### **IDOS**

Winter Show 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> July

Spring Show 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> September

October Show 11<sup>th</sup> October

### **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.

**February.** Zga. Pine Road x Zygo. Kosciuszko x Zga. Clare Fisher 'Amanda'

**March.** Den. Phena's Charm 'Genesis' x Spec. Moonmere

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

**May.** Zga. Pine Road x Zygo. Kosciuszko x Zga. Clare Fisher 'Amanda'

**June.** Den. Phena's Charm 'Genesis' x Spec. Moonmere

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

**August.** Zga. Pine Road x Zygo. Kosciuszko x Zga. Clare Fisher 'Amanda'

**September.** Den. Phena's Charm 'Genesis' x Spec. Moonmere

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

**November.** Zga. Pine Road x Zygo. Kosciuszko x Zga. Clare Fisher 'Amanda'

**December.** Den. Phena's Charm 'Genesis' x Spec. Moonmere

### **ORCHID EVENTS 2025**

**Collectors Plant Fair – 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> April.** Hawkesbury Race Club Clarendon

**Orchids Out West – 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> May.** Hawkesbury Showground Clarendon

**Mingara Orchid Fair and Show – 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> June**

**St Ives Orchid Fair – 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> August.**

**Paphiopedilum and Cymbidium Show, Yagoona -TBA**  
**Orchids Central, Club Condell Park**

**17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> October**

**Australian Native Orchid Show Revesby Workers Club -TBA**