

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society

Reminders:

Bring your Seedling in the Growing comp next meeting

AGM Nominations

Upcoming Events:

SSOS March AGM Meeting
13th Mar

Castle Hill International
Orchid Fair 31st Mar – 1st Apr

SSOS April AGM Meeting
10th Apr

Collectors Plant Fair 8th - 9th
Apr



President: Frank Daniel

Editor: Richard Dimon

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SUTHERLAND SHIRE ORCHID SOCIETY MARCH 2017



SSOS February Plant of the Night – *Paphiopedilum Vanguard* grown by S. T. Ho

GROWING COMPETITION

FINAL SHOWING - ZYGOPETALUM SEEDLINGS

BRING IN YOUR PLANT!

This month is the final showing for our Zygopetalum orchid seedlings. All those members who are waiting to make a grand statement or those that have forgotten to bring in for previous showings or can't find it. Now is the time to show off your plant whether well grown or not. Bring it along so we can see the value of running growing competitions.

1 seedling is still available for the new growing comp that will commence after the zygopetalum growing comp. However, if there is still a large interest for members wanting to enter we may be able to purchase more plants



SSOS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES - 12 FEBRUARY 2017

Frank Daniel extended a welcome to our members and guests, Rhonda Clasper, Gifford Bunt, Cheryl Spencer and Karen Sommerville. He asked for a member to motion that the January minutes which were printed in the Bulletin and distributed either by mail or email were accurate. Gary Hodder motioned they were correct. Carried.

Apologies: Jan Robinson, Richard Dimon, Cheryl Matheson, Ranald Gittoes

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Newsletters from OSNSW, Eastern Suburbs, Eurobodalla, North Shore and Species Orchid societies

Registrations are now open for the 2018 Orchids in the Foothills 18-22 July 2018 and there are over 600 hotel/motels plus caravan parks offering accommodation within 30 minutes of the venue. The venue is the Hawkesbury Indoor Stadium YMCA, 16 Stewart St, South Windsor.

The venue for the monthly meetings of the Cymbidium Club of Australia has changed and will be at The Allan G Ezzy Community Centre, 1 Newport St, Pemulwuy. Meetings are held from March to November on the 2nd Thursday of the Month commencing at 8pm.

The Castle Hill International Orchid Fair will be held 31 March & 1 April 2017 at the Castle Hill Showground. We have received the flask list from Watchara Ipanich Orchids which people can pre-order. Orders can be placed with Bill and Jan Miles at orchidspeciesplus@bigpond.com.

Royale Orchids are holding an open weekend from Friday 24 to Sunday 26 March from 8am to 5pm each day. They have new seedlings and Mericlones plus specimen plants. If you present the flyer you receive a 10% discount. If you would like the flyer let Rhonda know and she will email it to you.

Our new members this month are Florence ANDREWS, Irene CHALMERS and Ian WARE.

Tonight Karen Sommerville from Royal Botanic Gardens spoke on the research being undertaken on the pollination of

Diuris arenaria and other Diuris species at Mt Annan Botanical Gardens. Members were enthralled with how the plants seeds are propagated and grown and the outcomes of the tests.

Gary Hart spoke to members on caring for orchids in extreme heat. His tips are very beneficial.

MARCH: AGM and George Birss will talk on orchid pots and their uses for different types of orchids.

APRIL: Jane Wright will talk on orchid pests and diseases which will be very interesting to members.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

AGM will be held at the March meeting. We are calling on members to nominate for positions on the committee, especially Secretary. If we don't have a secretary, we won't have guest speakers at our meetings which means the meeting will finish after the judging, and no minutes will be kept of the meetings. We are looking for people to fill general committee member positions as well. The nomination form will be included in the bulletin.

At the March meeting the final judging of the zygopetulum seedling growing competition will occur. The winners of Open & Intermediate/Novice section will receive a \$20 Bunnings card. Don't forget to bring you plant along for judging.

The Society is commencing another growing competition with 30 Laelia purpurata var. tipo X Lc. Irene Finney seedlings. Seedlings were \$10 each and members had an opportunity to purchase one. To make it fair, the members who paid were given a number which was then drawn and allocated against a plant number. Plants will be judged every 3 months over a 2 year period and there will be a novice/intermediate and open class.

George Birss will hold the next growers group meeting on 18 February 2017 to commence at 1pm. Jan will talk on Promenaeas and Gary Hodder will talk on Indian Dendrobiums and soft canes. George's address is 4 Collins Place Engadine. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The winner of the subscription to the Orchids Australia magazine at the January meeting was Irene Chalmers who has



kindly asked for it to be redrawn. George Birss was the winner of the 12 month subscription.

The Society still doesn't have a venue for our shows, even though the committee has been hard at trying to find something suitable. You'll be informed as soon as we confirm a venue.

Our fund raising BBQ at Bunnings Kirrawee will be held on Saturday 25 February 2017 from 7.00am with selling food from 8.00am up until 4.00pm.

The volunteer roster was circulated for people to put their name against. We are looking for an additional gazebo for sun protection as Bunnings is providing one gazebo. Frank asked if anyone had one that we could use.

In order to save some money, we are asking members to freeze some ice blocks in ice cream containers and drop the ice off at Bunnings on the day.

Bunnings stipulates what we have to sell. If you are helping on the B-B-Q, you should wear a hat, sunscreen, enclosed shoes and shirts - no singlets. Society shirts are to be worn if people have them. Hair needs to be tied back, plenty of fluids to keep hydrated.

NAME BADGE DRAW – John Chan

LUCKY PLANTS - Diane Phillips, Bill Howse & Michelle Rose, Robert Nicol

PRESIDENT'S AWARD - Sandra Crosby & Tony Costa for *Rhynchostylis retusa*

RAFFLE - Bill Howse, Sandra Crosby, Thomas Scerri, Eddie Chin, George Birss

Next meeting: 13 March 2017



BUNNINGS BBQ

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society ventured into it's first Bunnings BBQ fund raiser. Having lost our Swane's venue to hold our Annual Winter and Spring Shows our need to find a new venue for the shows revealed that for a suitable venue it was going to eat into the Societies bank account and therefore there was the need to find funds to cover the shows costs, venue, prize money, sashes and prize money.

The Committee decided to apply for a fund raiser at Bunnings Kirrawee and last Saturday a number of members turned out to cook a sausage or two or eight hundred and forty.

At 7am members gathered and under the direction of Craig (George's son) who had organised a number of these for the scouts, set up the area and started cooking. With Craig's no nonsense direction we soon had onions, and their alluring aroma drifting through the car park. "If you cook it they will come" and they did. Our well oiled sausage sandwich machine fired into action and at times it became a bit hectic. At no time did we have a queue due to an organised production line.

Alas at 1pm an urgent trip was required to the butchers and the bread shop as we had exceeded the recommended requirements set out by Bunnings. We were soon back in production and things were flowing nicely. Well that also hit a snag, at 2.30pm we again were running short and again we sent out a runner for more supplies. Exceeding Bunnings suggested requirements not once but twice, although frustrating was great for the Societies purse.

It was great to see so many newer members rally to the request for volunteers and mixed with the other members I think all had a great day. No special thanks to those that helped on the day as you ALL did an outstanding job, but our cooks, Craig, Archie, Frank, Richie and Michael do deserve a special thanks for keeping the hot plate running at max.

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YOU GREW IT!

HARAELLA RETROCALLA GROWN BY SANDRA CROSBY & TONY COSTA



This genus, Haraella, has only two species and were named for a Japanese botanist Yoshi Hara in 1930.

A small epiphyte, needs moderate shade & plenty of water, while the root tips are active is found in Taiwan at elevations from 1000 – 2200 m requires warm to cool growing conditions.

On a very short inflorescence the very attractive small sequential opening flowers are displayed. Usually only three flowers at a time the small yellow and red flowers have a citrusy fragrance can continue flowering for several months. Flowers are pollinated by a species of beetle. The plant fragrance mimic the scent of the female to entice the male that then moves to the next flower to pollinate.

This plant does best mounted or in a slotted wooden basket to display the pendulous inflorescence. They like high humidity and good air circulation.

Not found often but a very cute little orchid that may not win at a show but will delight any grower when in flower. Well worth acquiring if you can.

CATTLEYA FORBESII GROWN BY WANE MCEVOY



A cool to warm epiphytic or lithophytic species from Brazil. Found near streams or in coastal areas from sea level to 200metres.

Medium sized canes the growth habit often produces multiple leads throughout the year which means that this plant forms small specimens very quickly. Grow in medium to large bark (or it can be mounted) in partial sun.

The inflorescence usually carries two blooms but can have up to six. The flowers are long lived, fragrant, waxy and vary in colour. Wayne's plant is a pale green / cream with the typical elegant white tubular lip with the inside, yellow with red markings.

ANACHEILUM COCHLEATUM GROWN BY MAY LUC

It is hard to keep up with name changes, Encyclia, Epidendrum, Prosthechea and now Anacheilium cochleatum but easily recognised by it's common names of "clamshell, cockle shell or octopus orchid".

The "cockle shell" orchid has flowers that display upside down with the lip above the petals and sepals. The hood shaped lip points upwards and is usually quite dark, in this



case cream with maroon markings and stripping. The petals and sepals hang below the lip and are a cream towards green. In some varieties the sepals and petals are narrow and dangle more and in some minds resemble octopus tentacles. These blooms are long lasting and can last several months.

Found growing from Florida through Central America they are a cool to warm grower that likes even water and fertilizer throughout the year.

DENDROBIUM BIGIBBUM VAR. SUPERBUM GROWN BY LEE BUIVIDS



The floral emblem of Queensland, The Cooktown Orchid.

Growing from Cairns to Cape York, in far north Queensland, into the Torres Strait Islands and PNG. Found from sea level to 400 metres in semi arid areas. Where they grow has two

seasons, wet and dry. The dry times have no rain for two to three months with temperatures seldom below 10oC for long periods.

This plant in Sydney requires a heated glass house to maintain the high temperatures with medium to high light. The plant can reach 80cm in height with canes having 3 – 12 leaves. The inflorescence arises from near the top and is an arching 30cm with 2 – 20 flowers. The pansy like flowers can vary greatly in colour from pinkish / mauve to lavender or purple some times white. The base of the labellum being a much darker purple.

Always a stunning display when put on the show bench but this one is not a beginners orchid. It requires heat, humidity and space to reach it's height. Likes to be pot bound and a plant 60cm tall can often be seen in a 100mm pot with it's roots extending from the pot.

IN MY GREENHOUSE



New growths and new shoots galore, ain't growing orchids grand.

After all that heat I have now had 60mm of good rain, my water tanks are full and things are going green. My dockrillias are all loving these conditions the succulent leaves seemed to have fattened up in the last few days and look like they have grown mm each night.

Walking around I find Miltonias in spike, my M. Clowessii has 12 spikes already. Pholidata imbricate is in spike as are a few Dendrochillums in particular a pink on called D. Hampellii. Last year was a first flowering, I am looking forward to this year as it has doubled in size. My deciduous, Stenoglottis fimbriata, that when the new growth appears has purple spots on the leaves and as the flower spikes start the spots



disappear has started to spike. Three days ago it had 3 spikes today it has 7, hopefully many more to come as each spike carries about 50 small pinkish flowers, stunning when is all out. My laelias are in spike, some L. Anceps have spikes over 30mm already.

In the glass house species Phallies are starting to flower with their vibrant waxy, star shaped flowers, always stunning against the lime green foliage. This year I hope to flower a number of Bulbophyllums that I have been nursing along to flowering size. Most are showing new growths and in numerous directions, here's hoping.

I still have heaps to re pot or pot on. I have pulled out about 6 stanhopea small plants that are in black pots and have grown to the size to be re planted into baskets. With the hot weather we have experienced I am behind in potting Soft canes, Indian Dendrobs, and Cymbids.

Gary Hart's talk last month was inspiring, I went straight home and put all my Massies and Pleuos. Under the bench on trays over trays of water and straight away things looked better, you could almost see little smiles on their leaves.

With all this joy there has to be grief. After the dry and now the rain, nasties are about. Watch for scale and mealy bug. Some members mentioned they have caught many Dendrobium Beetles. Personally I have found grass hoppers, luckily in the garden, hopefully they don't find their way into the green house. I also have had a few mice / rats, baits have solved that problem I hope. They come from the jungle my neighbour has for a back yard.

Any way things are looking good, now is the time to tackle all those jobs put off because of the heat.

Cattleya walkeriana grown by Lee Buivids



MONTHLY JUDGING RESULTS

For : Feb-17

PLANT OF NIGHT

Winner Paph. Vanguard S. T. Ho

OPEN CLASS HYBRID

Winner Paph. Vanguard S. T. Ho

OPEN CLASS SPECIES

Winner Ddc. magnum S.Crosby/T.C
osta

INTERMEDIATE JUDGES CHOICE

Winner Laeliinae 'unknown' P. Ng

NOVICE & JUNIOR JUDGES CHOICE

C. Hawaiian Wedding
Winner Song J. Chan

PRESIDENT'S CHOICE

Winner Rhy. retusa S.Crosby/T.C
osta

CLASS # 1 AUSTRALIAN NATIVES

1st Sarco. ceciliae G. Birss

Den. bigibbum var.

2nd superbum L. Buivids

CLASS # 2 PAPHIOPEDILUMS

SPECIES

1st Paph. superbiens var. curtisii S. T. Ho

2nd Paph. liemianum S. T. Ho

CLASS # 3 LAELIINAE OVER 110MM (CLASSICAL SHAPE)

1st Lc. Mini Purple 'Vanessa' L. Buivids
S.Crosby/T.C
osta

2nd Blc. Momilani Rainbow

CLASS # 4 NOVELTY

PAPHIOPEDILUMS

1st Paph. Vanguard S. T. Ho

2nd Paph. Honey V. Petrovski

3rd Paph. Magic Lantern W. McEvoy
M.Rose/B.H
owse

4th Paph. Dellaina

CLASS # 5 LAELIINAE OVER 80MM UP TO & INCLUDING 110MM (CLASSICAL SHAPE)

1st Ctt. CRB's Origin T. Hyde

CLASS # 7 LAELIINAE (NON CLASSICAL SHAPE)

C. Caudebec Carmela x Blc.

1st Waiane Leopard W. McEvoy

2nd Epc. Middleberg 'MAJ' V. Petrovski

3rd C. Netrasiri Waxy 'Jairug' T. Hyde

4th C. Netrasiri Waxy 'Jairug' D. Phillips



CLASS # 8 LAELIINAE UP TO & INCLUDING 80MM (CLASSICAL SHAPE)

1st Lctna. Little Drummer Boy x Sc. Lana Coryell S.Crosby/T.C
osta

CLASS # 9 AUSTRALIAN NATIVE HYBRIDS

1st Den. Anne's Rainbow Surprise x Andrew Persson S.Crosby/T.C
osta

2nd Den. Hilda Poxon S.Crosby/T.C
osta

A DENDROBIUM SPECIES - EXOTIC

1st Den. glomeratum G. Birss

CLASS # 10 SPECIES ASIAN (Elsewhere not Included)

1st V. tricolor M. Luk
S.Crosby/T.C
osta

2nd Rhy. retusa

3rd Phal. violacea var. sumatrana G. Birss
W. & J.
Chapman

4th Phal. puichra

CLASS # 11 PHALAENOPSIS OVER 75MM

1st Paph. Big Foot ????wrong class or Phal?? G. Birss

CLASS # 11A COELGYNINAE SPECIES

1st Ddc. magnum S.Crosby/T.C
osta

2nd Coel. rumphii G. Birss
S.Crosby/T.C
osta

3rd Ddc. longifolium

CLASS # 12 SEEDLING

1st Paph. Hsinying Lime S. T. Ho

2nd Paph. Hsinying Lime S. T. Ho

CLASS # 13 ONCIDIUM HYBRIDS 60MM AND UNDER

1st Onc. Aka Baby 'Raspberry Chocolate' S.Crosby/T.C
osta

CLASS # 15 ONCIDIUM HYBRIDS OVER 60mm

1st Pyp. Kalihi Brsdm. Golden Gamine W. McEvoy

2nd 'White Knight' P. Davies
Mtssa. Estrelita 'Sweet'

3rd Senorita' M. Luk

4th Onc. 'unknown' M. Luk

CLASS # 16 MISCELLANEOUS HYBRIDS

1st Prom. Drayton Tiger x stapelioides V. Petrovski

CLASS # 17 DENDROBIUM HYBRIDS

Den. mohlianum x sulawesience ??? G. Birss

2nd Den. Yashiga Fantasy V. Petrovski
S.Crosby/T.C
osta

3rd Den. Chao Praya Moonlight

CLASS # 18 VANDACEOUS

1st Angcm. Longiscott S.Crosby/T.C
osta

2nd Asda. Fuchs Gold x V. Faye Bennett M. Dimon

3rd V. Bitz's Hearthrob x V. Danny German M. Dimon

4th Aranda Woleco M. Luk

CLASS # 21B LAELIINAE SPECIES

1st E. alata W. McEvoy

2nd C. forbesii W. McEvoy

3rd C. bicolor W. McEvoy

4th Epi. cochleata M. Luk

CLASS # 23 SPECIES OTHER (NOT ELSEWHERE INCLUDED)

1st Prom. stapelioides S.Crosby/T.C
osta

2nd Gongora galeata D. Phillips

CLASS # 23A OTHER PLEUROTHALLIDINAE SPECIES

1st Ste. papaquerensis S.Crosby/T.C
osta

2nd Rstp. schlimii S.Crosby/T.C
osta

3rd Rstp. wagneri S.Crosby/T.C
osta

4th Pths. prolifera G. Birss

CLASS # 24A NATIVE SARCANTHINAE HYBRIDS

1st Sarco. Jill C. Brandon

CLASS # 28 NOVICE - LAELIINAE

1st C. Hawaiian Wedding Song J. Chan

CLASS # 34 INTERMEDIATE - LAELIINAE

1st Laeliinae 'unknown' P. Ng

2nd Blc. Varut 'Green World' ??? P. Ng

CLASS # 35 INTERMEDIATE - MISCELLANEOUS

1st Ons. Wildcat P. Ng

2nd Pyp. Mariposa var. alba R. Nicol

CLASS # 36 INTERMEDIATE - SPECIES

1st Brassavola nodosa R. Nicol



LEAF TEMPERATURE

Gary Hart gave a very informative take about how to look after your orchids in the 40 degree temperatures that we had experienced over this Summer.

Alan Merriman is a noted grower from the Blue Mountains area and produces a newsletter each month for interested growers. Here is a short extract from Alan's last newsletter that I found very interesting and supports Gary's talk.

During January we experienced many days of temperatures over 40 degreesC. Many plants have been burnt and are taking their time to recover.

Rule one: Do not over water. Mist plants early mornings and early evening. In other words, wet bulbs and leaves not the compost. Do this on over 35 degree days. If you over water the leaves will drown! Then death to the plant.

Leaf temperature is important in the summer time. Cool growers like a minimum temperature of 10c going up to 15c. Medium growers start at 15c growing up to 27c. Warm growers 10c to 30c. At high temperatures the plant is dead at 40c.

The inside of the leaf temperature is very important. Cool growers prefer 0 degrees to 22c. Medium growers 10c to 33c. Warm growers a little higher.

Most of the plants we grow would prefer an average temperature of around 24c to 28c during the day and at this temperature the plant is growing at 95 – 100%.

If any members would like Alan's newsletter each month, contact George who will give you the link to Alan.

EVERYTHING LOVES TO EAT SPUDS!

Protecting pests from your Australian Native Orchids by
Richard Dimon

Now the time once again has come where many Australian native terrestrial orchids will start to develop new growths for the year and shoot up from the soils of your pots. For many growers, this is the stage where you can first determine how

well your plants have developed after you have repotted them. However, it is also the best time for many pests to feast upon all your lovely new green shoots. This has been the case for myself, as I have just had at least 50% of my native terrestrials attacked by a multitude of nibblers! Currently I have had a problem with rats digging up and eating many tubers that have been highlighted to their attention by the new shoots coming out of the pot.

But it's not only rats and mice eating the tubers to worry about, pretty much any pest will have a go at native terrestrial orchids. Roaches, caterpillars, grasshoppers, slugs and snails will all nibble at the newly emerging leafy shoots. Red spider mites and thrips will love to infest and weaken developing leaves, quickly spreading across all your terrestrials once the plants are fully grown. Aphids will love to cover the developing flower spikes of your native orchids, aborting many flowers in the process. Although not as common as other pests, mealy bug and scale can also be present in some cases throughout the collection. Due to the more unique growing conditions that Australian terrestrials require, the application of control and prevention of these mentioned pests can be different when compared to other types of orchids.



Holes created from rats digging up tubers

Fortunately, when the terrestrials are dormant and being repotted for several months, most of the pests disappear until the next seasons growth. However, rats and mice can easily hunt out your tubers all year round (especially if they recognise that your pots contain tubers and keep coming back



to dig more up!). The best prevention for this is to keep your terrestrials in an enclosed growing area which stops any easy access by rats or mice. But like many native growers who keep their terrestrials in an open growing area, rat baiting seems to be the best method in dealing with such issues, particularly when applied at the current time when most shoots are emerging above the ground. This goes for the same with slugs and snails, with snail pellets being a necessary evil to protect your plants for the growing period.



A bit of hair left from my furry friends after finding one of my tubers

For many other pests, treatment methods can be applied which are similar to what you would use for your other orchids. For my terrestrials, I like to use a combination of confidor and neem oil as a general insecticide. However, as terrestrials can be particularly sensitive to many chemicals used on other orchids, I have always used half strength of what is recommended. A general application about once a month during the growing period seems to keep most herbivory of pests under control. No matter what your insecticide regime is for your orchids, just keep in mind the concentration you use when applying on your natives, as well as the timing of your application, particularly in the most active growing period during the emergence of new shoots for the season. P.S. Most of your native terrestrials should be shooting up out of the pots now, so be sure to keep close

SUTHERLAND SHIRE ORCHID SOCIETY INC. NOMINATION FORM FOR COMMITTEE

Members at the March Annual General Meeting will elect the Society’s President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee. If you wish to nominate for a position, please fill in the form below, and return to The Secretary, Sutherland Shire Orchid Society, 5 Tiber Place, Heathcote. 2233

I,.....(insert full name) wish to nominate for the position of:

(Please tick in circle)

President Vice-President Secretary Treasurer Committee

Signed:.....

Seconded By:.....

TO NOMINATE, YOU MUST BE A FINANCIAL MEMBER OF THE SUTHERLAND SHIRE ORCHID SOCIETY INC.



SSOS ORCHID CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Attached are the answers to the crossword that was distributed to SSOS members in last month's bulletin. Hope you all did well!

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Articles for the Bulletin

If you are interested in providing articles for our monthly bulletin, please email Richard Dimon at dimon.richard@gmail.com

The articles can be on anything you like related to orchids. Pictures to go with articles are also encouraged.

Disclaimer: The growing guides are provided only as a starting basis to cultivation. Local conditions in your area may require modification to these suggestions. SSOS will not be responsible for the results of your cultivation practices. The opinions expressed in these articles are those of the author and not those of SSOS, SSOS in no way endorses or supports any claims or opinions of said authors. Pictures provided by Pamela Davies, Cheryl Matheson and Richard Dimon and may not be used without the expressed permission of the photographer.