

Shoalhaven Orchid Society Inc.



Cymbidium Shoalhaven 'Touch of Class'

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Shoalhaven Orchid Society Inc

April 2021

65th Anniversary

Shoalhaven Orchid Society Inc.

Established April 1956

Celebrating 65 years in 2021

SOCIETY INFORMATION

VENUE: BOMADERRY COMMUNITY CENTRE
17 BIRRILEY STREET, BOMADERRY.

NEXT MEETING

Monday 19 April 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.

Guest Speaker - Our Guest Speaker for April will be **Jan Robinson**. Jan will be talking on '**Orchid Experiments thanks to COVID**'. Having to stay at home for months last year Jan took the time to try different things with her orchids and I am sure you will find her talk very interesting.

Jan is President of the Sutherland Shire Orchid Society and also a respected OSNSW Orchid Judge.



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.

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.



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Happy Anniversary



In April 1956 the Shoalhaven Orchid Society Inc. first opened their doors to keen orchid enthusiasts. 65 years later, the Society is still going strong.

Let's celebrate this great milestone !



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 REPORT



The recent destructive flooding has caused major damage along the East Coast of Australia. Luckily our Shoalhaven was spared the worst of it. We have endured much over the past couple of years – bushfires – floods – COVID19 – making it a very testing time.

Looking forward to our 65th Anniversary at our April meeting. I hope as many of our Life Members and members can attend. I know a few are unwell and may not be able to be present. Our best wishes to you. Also attending will be our website designer, Barbara Simmons. Barbara has worked miracles in producing and upkeeping our webpage at no charge. Looking forward to meeting her and thanking her in person.

We have been fortunate to have been allocated a Bunnings BBQ for Saturday 10th April. Thank you to the organisers, Sandra and Yvonne and also the members who have volunteered. The money raised will help with the cost of updating/repairing/replacing our show banners.

Hope to see you at the sale of Phil Harrington's orchid collection at his home on Saturday 24th April, from 9am. Phil was also a member of the Illawarra Orchid Society and we are combining our efforts in organising the sale on behalf of his widow, Kim.

We certainly have a busy month ahead.

Warm regards,
Louise



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

GROWING COMPETITION

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



LIBRARY

Temporarily suspended
until further notice

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.



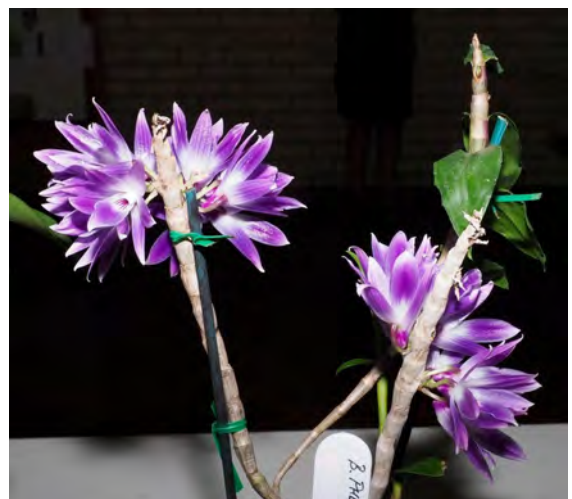
WISH LIST

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.



Benching Results - March 2021

Category	Plant	Owner
JUNIOR		
NOVICE		
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Onc.</i> Sweet Sugar	B. Shelvey
Laeliinae Alliance	<i>C. bowringiana</i>	T. Gablonski
Miscellaneous orchid	<i>Prosthechea cochleata</i>	R. Hahn
Novice Orchid of the Night	<i>C. bowringiana</i>	T. Gablonski
INTERMEDIATE		
Species orchid	<i>Dendrochilum macranthum</i>	S. Ellis
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Onc.</i> Speckled Spire 'Shorty'	J. Clarke
Laeliinae Alliance	<i>C.</i> Siamese Dell 'Kiwi Fruit'	F. Sikora
Cymbidium	<i>Cym.</i> Tracy Riddaway x Marie Golden Elf	G. Douglass
Intermediate Orchid of the Night	<i>Dendrochilum macranthum</i>	S. Ellis
OPEN		
Oncidiinae Alliance	<i>Oda.</i> Land Breeze	B. Phelan
Dendrobium Alliance	<i>Den.</i> Andree Miller	H. Douglass
Laeliinae Alliance	<i>C.</i> Sangyung Ruby	H. Douglass
Vandaceous	<i>Phal.</i> Unknown	G. Jonas
Species	<i>Den victoria reginae</i>	B. Phelan
Australian Native species	<i>Den. bigibbum</i>	L. Phelan
Miscellaneous orchid	<i>Masd.</i> Kimball's Sun 'Pure Gold'	B. Phelan
Open Orchid of the Night	<i>Den. victoria reginae</i>	B. Phelan
Orchid Species of the Night	<i>Dendrochilum macranthum</i>	S. Ellis
Orchid Hybrid of the Night	<i>Cattleya Siamese Dell 'Kiwi Fruit'</i>	F. Sikora
Growing Competition	1st. John Clarke 2nd. Richard Korber <i>Den. Aust. Obsession 'Purple paddle Pop' x</i> <i>Den. Starsheen 'Botanic fireworks'</i> 1 point to : T. Bourke, L. Cowell, J. Clancy, S. Ellis, L. Gannon, L. Phelan, F. Sikora, B. Shelvey, D. Slye, B. Smythe, Y. Young	

TWO REMINDERS !



Popular Vote - Remember, each member may place **only one blue counter** and/or **one red counter** into any cup on the benches. Placing multiple counters in the cup for your own plant (or anyone else's) is unfair.

Benching Status - Members who feel they are ready to compete in a higher benching category may advise the benching marshal that they wish to advance to the next level.

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.

JUDGING RESULTS FOR MARCH 2021

Congratulations to all



*Orchid Hybrid of the Night = C. Siamese Dell
'Kiwi Fruit'*

F, Sikora



*Orchid Species of the Night -
Dendrochilum macranthum*

S. Ellis



*Growing Competition - Den. Aust. Obsession 'Purple paddle Pop'
x Den. Starsheen 'Botanic fireworks'*



*Novice Orchid of the Night - C. bowringiana
T. Gablonski*



The Winners



The Brazilian Miltonias

Brian Milligan

Reprinted with permission from the OSCOV website.

For many years the genus *Miltonia* consisted of two different groups of plants. Those species found in Colombia carried circular, pansy-like flowers, while the flowers of those from Brazil were less well filled-in. About twenty years ago the Colombian miltonias were moved into the genus *Miltoniopsis*, while those miltonias from Brazil were retained in the genus *Miltonia*. Most orchid growers accepted this change but it left the Royal Horticultural Society with a problem in naming the hybrids, especially those few inter-generic hybrids that had already been made (and registered as miltonias). The solution adopted was to do nothing! Consequently, all hybrids made using *Miltoniopsis* and/or *Miltonia* species or hybrids are still registered under the name *Miltonia*.



Miltonia Tropic Skies 'Anurat' CC/OSCOV



There are about ten miltonia species, several of which will happily grow and flower in a 'cosy' shade-house in Melbourne. A 'cosy' shade-house is one fitted with a fibreglass roof, so that the plants can be kept dry during cold winter weather. They should be watered only on sunny mornings, so that their foliage can dry before nightfall. The most well known species is *Miltonia spectabilis*, a native of the Organ Mountains (and other areas) in eastern Brazil. In common with most other miltonia species, its pseudo-bulbs carry two narrow, yellow-green leaves, together with a number of basal sheaths. The inflorescences emerge from between these sheaths and bear one or two flowers with cream petals and sepals and a pink lip. My plants usually flower in January and February. Those plants grown in pots seem to flower more reliably than the one I mounted on tree fern, probably because I am unable to keep the latter uniformly moist during the heat of summer.

Most orchid books feature a photograph of *Miltonia spectabilis* var. *moreliana*, which has purplish flowers with a plum-coloured lip, rather than the type species. However, this variety has recently been shown to differ sufficiently from the type to be given its own specific name, *Miltonia moreliana*. Aside from its distinctive colour, its flowers are also larger and it is undoubtedly the most desirable of the miltonia species from the horticultural viewpoint. It flowers several months later than *M. spectabilis*.

Miltonia regnelli has flowers that are similar in colour to those of *M. spectabilis*, although they are a little smaller. It grows in eastern Brazil at moderate altitudes, and therefore it may also be grown without heat in Melbourne (I have no experience in growing this species). *Miltonia flavescens*, a species that bears up to ten yellow flowers per inflorescence, comes from hot lowlands in Brazil. Although I have found that it grows satisfactorily in a Melbourne shade-house, it refuses to flower under these conditions. *Miltonia clowesii* has flowers with orange petals and sepals marked with brownish bars and blotches. It will grow and flower without heat but does better with winter warmth. *M. candida*, which has chestnut-brown and yellow petals and sepals and a pink and white lip, also prefers winter warmth.

Miltonia hybrids are probably seen more often on our show benches than the species from which they were bred, probably because most exhibit hybrid vigour and can be grown without heat. *Miltonia bluntii* is often exhibited as a species but in reality it is a natural hybrid between *M. spectabilis* and *M. clowesii*. Two other common hybrids are *M. Anne Warne* (*M. bluntii* x *M. spectabilis*) and *M. Guanabara* (*M. Anne Warne* x *M. regnellii*). These miltonia hybrids seem to do best if pot-grown, using a potting mix of medium-sized pine-bark. I add a little chopped sphagnum moss to the bark, so that the mix retains more moisture. The plants should be watered and fertilised regularly from spring to autumn but given a drier rest after flowering. They enjoy good light and make good companion plants for cymbidiums.

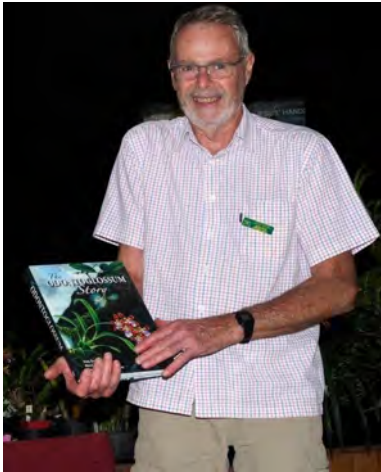
NOTE: The Brazilian miltonias are less fussy than their Colombian miltoniopsis relatives and they can make great specimen plants. If you enter 'Miltonia species' into your search engine you will see photos of most of the species mentioned.

Lynne Phelan

The Odontoglossum Story

In 2016 one of the principal American authors, Stig Dalstrom, contacted Brian Phelan and invited him to submit an article with some photos on how he grows his *Odontoglossums*. Brian submitted his article, however did not receive any news back for many moons. Last year Brian was advised that the book was in production with a complimentary copy sent to him earlier this year.

Despite the very thorough and detailed scientific treatment that comprises the bulk of this large tome there is also a lot of interesting general information about *Odontoglossums* including the two short chapters from Brian and one other grower on culture. You would have to be very seriously interested in the genus to buy the book as it has a very hefty price tag though it is currently out of print.



Upcoming Events

Orchids Out West
14th, 15th, 1st May
(Depending on Covid)

Southern Orchid Spectacular
24th - 26th October 2021

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

Mingara Orchid Club Inc.
Fair & Show
26th - 27th June

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

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

March Members' Auction



ORCHID SALE

Our Society and Illawarra Orchid Society are working together to sell the orchids and bromeliads of our recently deceased friend and member, Phil Harrington.

We have invited Bateman's Bay, Canberra, Eurobodalla, Milton/Ulladulla, Southern Highlands and Sutherland Orchid Societies to the sale on Saturday **24th April, 2021** The sale will start at 9am.

PLEASE NOTE: The sale will have to be cancelled if it is, or has recently been, raining heavily. (For confirmation please ring Louise 0410241177 or Françoise 0424165863)

ADDRESS: 82 Carrington Rd., Beaumont (north – west Nowra)

Carrington Rd. is a narrow country road running of the Moss Vale Road. Please Google address beforehand. There is limited parking on site. Shoalhaven and Illawarra members will try to assist by directing visitors to parking spots.

Note: A moderate walk up a grassed incline is necessary.

**** CASH ONLY ****

The sale will consist of named varieties of – 200 Cymbidiums – ranging from seedlings to lge. plants with a mixture of miniature to standard size Native orchids – species and hybrids, some mounted, Coelogynes – species and hybrids, Soft canes – a large number of various sized plants, Brassia, Oncidium, Maxillaria, a few Cattleya's, Zygo's Bulbo's – Orchids you would find in an Open Grower's orchid collection Bromeliads – approx. 50

All plants have been well grown and will be sold at a reasonable price.

If attending, please bring a tray for your purchases
Hope to see you on the day.



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*'!

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.

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.



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We encourage you to support them.



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What's on at a Glance

COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2021

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

GENERAL MEETINGS 2021

15th February - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
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
August - Charity Orchid Auction

2021 GUEST SPEAKERS

February - George and Mike's Orchid Supplies
April - Jan Robinson Orchid Experiments thanks to COVID-19
May - Jane Wright - "What judges look for"
June - TBA
July - TBA
August - 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!

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.



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.

