

SUTHERLAND SHIRE ORCHID SOCIETY

BULLETIN: June 2021

www.ssos.org.au

MAY MEETING JUDGE'S CHOICE WINNERS:



OPEN SPECIES &
OPEN P.O.N.

Ddc. cobbianum
R. Trevenar



OPEN HYBRID P.O.N

C. Susie's Toy
P.Sanaphay



INTERMEDIATE
P.O.N.

Ctt. Portiata X
B. nodosa
R. Nicol



NOVICE P.O.N

Blc. Rosebud
J.Ng



(Photos by Pam Davies)

Next Meeting:

Monday 14th June

8pm Main Meeting

(Please arrive at 7.45 to be
Covid Checked-In)

Speaker:

Wal Chapman

**'Flora & Fauna of
Southern South
America'**

Sutherland Uniting
Church Auditorium,
Cnr Flora & Merton
Streets, Sutherland

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Jan Robinson

VICE PRESIDENT

Frank Daniel

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SSOS Members, Bloomin'Awesome At Home

Porcia Cannizaro (Ian Ware)



Slc. Kathryn Clarkson x Rlc. Sun Spots 'SVO Best' (Diana Hannah)



Paph. fairrleanum (Heath Myers)



Cattleya Little Susie
'Joy' (Jan Robinson)

Cym. Unknown (John Hely).jpg 2



Bulbo rothschildianum x Elizabeth Ann
(Frank Daniel)



SSOS Members, Bloomin'Awesome At Home



Paph. Unknown (John Hely)



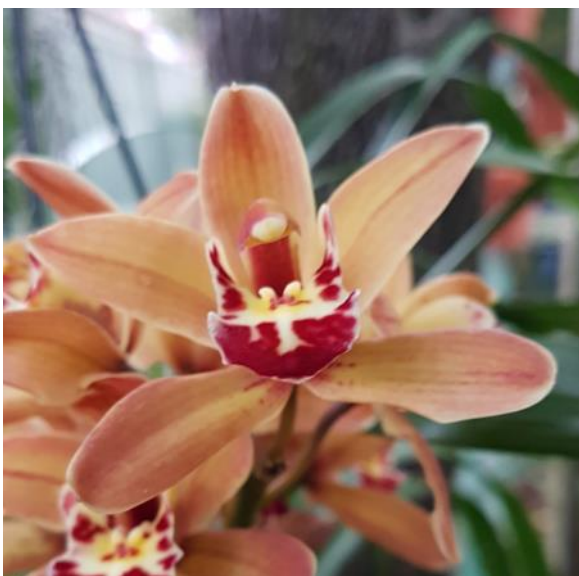
Paph. Saiun (Heath Myers)



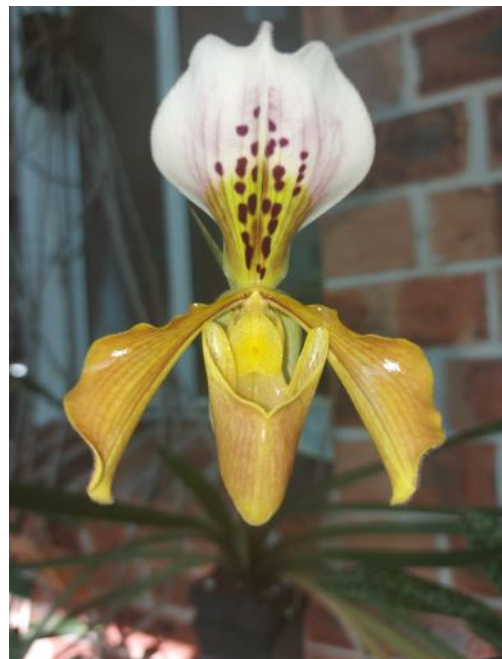
Lyc. Sugakuin (Jenny)



L. albida 'Violet Snowflake' X
L. Gouldiana 'Westernport'
(Robert Nicol)



Cym. Unknown (John Hely)



Paph. affine (Heath Myers)

SSOS Members, Bloomin' Awesome At Home:

Laelia anceps



Laelia anceps var "pierce" (Gary Hodder)

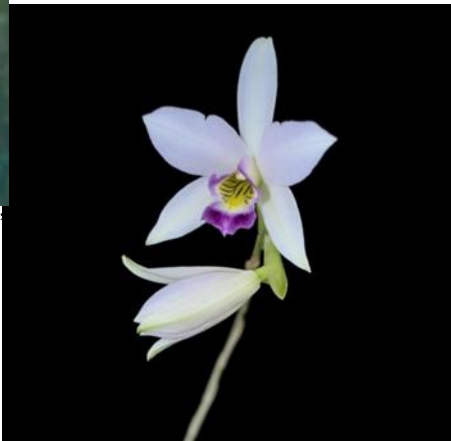


L. Unknown (Robert Nicol)



L. anceps 'Walibrunn' X 'Roseminah'
(Melissa Karayannis)

Laelia anceps "veitchiana"
"Blue Lip"
(Gary Hodder)



Laelia anceps var "alba" (Gary Hodder)



L. anceps 'Veitchiana Blue'
X *L. anceps* Dawsonii (Robert Nicol)



Laelia anceps var "gouldiana"
(Gary Hodder)

SSOS Members, Bloomin' Awesome At Home:

Laelia anceps



Laelia anceps var *alba* (Jan Robinson)



Laelia anceps var "*variacao barkeriana*"
(Gary Hodder)



Laelia anceps var "*cloudlands*"
(Gary Hodder)



Laelia anceps (Jan Robinson)

Laelia anceps (by Gary Hodder)

Laelia is a small genus of 25 species in the orchid family

Laelia anceps species are found in areas of subtropical or temperate climate in Central America along the ranges from Mexico down through Guatemala to Honduras.

In nature it grows as epiphytes on tree trunks or branches on the edge of forests at altitudes of 1500-2000 m. The plants are often exposed to full sun and strong winds, with hot days and cold nights. ... The next morning strong winds and sunshine quickly dry the plants before rain falls again in the evening.

It should be noted that *Laelia anceps* has also proven to be a fantastic parent within the *Cattleya* group.

Both the species and its hybrids will do best in bright *Cattleya* light. If the foliage is too green the plant is not receiving enough light and will not grow strongly or flower well. They need full sun in Winter. Air movement is not a problem for plants outdoors, but if grown inside good movement of fresh air is recommended.

One needs only to look at the weather of Mexico to learn about the watering schedule of *Laelia*. The late spring, summer, and early Autumn months are a period of heavy tropical rains. Make sure to keep your plants well watered during this period. Just the opposite happens during the other times of the year, when temperatures are lower and it is quite seasonally dry. Water less at this time. *Laelias* love ample fertilizing during their rapid growth season in the summer. In the growing period apply fertilizer weekly weakly.

Potting media is a very important factor for attaining good culture of *Laelia anceps* and its hybrids. They are quite susceptible to root loss if they are kept too wet in the dry season or if the potting mix is old. Very coarse mixes work well with *Laelias*. Use a high quality medium grade of pine bark, even occasionally adding some Charcoal, Perlite or Scoria for durability. Other inorganic additives will also work. The time of potting is also very important. It is best done right when a flush of new roots appear.

President's Message...

Greetings All,

Only three weeks off the shortest day of the year, hooray!! Who else has been chasing the sun for their orchids recently? The south end of one bush house is in total shade now, most of the plants that were previously on the benches have either been moved to a sunnier spot or hung up.



Have you reduced watering? Fertilising? We've had some days with high humidity and very little breeze this month, a recipe for fungal disasters if your plants stay wet on days like these. Check out one of my sarc's leaves, not looking good!!!



Are you battling pests of various types, especially scale and mealy bug, like I am? To complicate—or maybe compliment—my pest control, I have two big praying mantises living amongst my orchids, one in each bush house. Interesting that they were bright green in the summer but have now turned brown. No, they are not dead,



they are well and truly still alive! I haven't seen any grasshoppers in either bush house for ages, they must be doing a great job. But I can't do a general spray for scale or I would kill my helpers. Treating plants individually for scale is a bit of a nuisance especially with a big collection but no one has ever said growing orchids is easy, right?!

We had a good turnout at our May monthly meeting including three potential new members! The

benching was very good as well, we even had to add two more tables to accommodate the number of orchids. Hopefully that trend will continue and we don't have any snap lockdowns like our less fortunate southern neighbours.



Happy growing and stay safe,



Dear Members: Several recent events have occurred at our General Meetings which the Committee has taken swift action to deal with, as such behavior will not be tolerated. We would like to remind all members of the values, protocols and general courtesies we have all come to expect as a Society.

Ted Beehag Blooms

Many of our members have orchids that were originally part of the late Ted Beehag's orchid collection. We are featuring some of Ted's current blooms in the hands of new caretakers.

If you would like to join in, just email (mjbk1@bigpond.com)photos to Editor as they open up!



Sc Dal's Beau = Sc Royal Beau x Sc Lana
Coryell FA 1 (Ian Ware)



Rth Bawley Point (Jan Robinson)



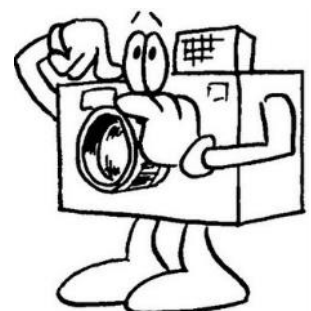
We still need help with bulletin content!

Email photos of orchids currently in bloom and their names to Melissa at mjbk1@bigpond.com for the next bulletin

Want to write an article for the bulletin??

Email to mjbk1@bigpond.com

Both before Sunday June 27th please !



Watering Orchids During Each Season (Excerpt)

by Sue Bottom, sbottom15@hotmail.com (Thankyou Sue)
St. Augustine Orchid Society

How many times have you heard it said that overwatering kills more orchids than any other single cause? But it isn't really overwatering that kills orchids, it is the lack of air around their roots that occurs when plants are overwatered. One of the many things orchid roots do is absorb oxygen needed for the respiration process, and when they are waterlogged the wet medium displaces the air and basically the plant suffocates. So how often should you water your orchids? It is such a simple question, with such a complex answer. The short answer is that it depends... on the type of orchid, on your potting mix, where you grow and the season.....

Growth Season vs. Winter Rest Period. Orchids in rapid growth during their growing season may have to be watered two or three times more frequently than during their resting season. High light and high temperature (up to some critical point) usually increase the plant's metabolism and cause it to grow more quickly necessitating more water. The plants need much more water and fertilizer to put on new growths and prepare the next season's blooms than



New roots and long green root tips are telling you it is time to ramp up your watering and fertilizer, your orchid is hungry and thirsty.

they need during their resting nap. Keen observation of your orchid's growth habits during each season and its response to climatic conditions will determine how much water and fertilizer your orchid needs to grow to its maximum potential. Are your orchid's root tips growing and lengthening? Are new growths beginning to show and enlarge? Is your orchid in bud? These plant activities indicate growth is occurring and the plant needs water and food to produce strong growths and flower well. The growth of many orchids slows in the winter, but some orchids such as Miltoniopsis and Oncidiums (syn. Odontoglossum) grow rapidly during the cooler fall and winter. Miltoniopsis mature their new growth in winter and their buds begin to show at that time. Do not allow these plants to dry out, even though it is winter, or their new growth will be wrinkled and the flowers, if any, will be wilted.....

Winter. As the days get shorter and your orchids are experiencing low light levels, their water and fertilizer requirements are also less. A general rule of thumb is water half as much as you do during the summer. Phalaenopsis and paphiopedilums like to be moist but not wet. Cattleyas, dendrobiums and oncidiums like to dry between watering. Check the medium several inches down in the pot to see if it is still damp. If it is damp, delay watering. It is especially important to watch your largest pots since they are the slowest to dry out after watering, especially when it is cool. You may also want to fill the bottom center of the pot with Styrofoam chunks or peanuts to allow drainage and improve drying. Some people advocate not watering the Dendrobium and Densiflora (also known as Callista) section dendrobiums at all during the winter until after flowering or new growth begins, others just restrict watering to once or twice a month to prevent the bulbs from shriveling. Do not fertilize these plants during this time period or you will encourage vegetative growth rather than flowering. When all the leaves have dropped on your winter dormant orchids, stop watering the plants. Watering during dormancy should only be done if the plant bulbs shrivel severely, at which time you can place the pot in a saucer so water wicks up through the potting medium to restore the bulbs.....

In the beginning of your orchid growing career, you may have watered your orchids every Saturday morning. Then you learned that the plants growing in sphagnum moss died with this watering frequency so you decided that sphagnum is evil and wondered why so many commercial growers use it. As you continue buying and growing different orchids, you learn the advantages and disadvantages of different mixes or growing without mixes and how to water the various types you grow. Ultimately you start using your powers of observation to tell how often your orchids need to be watered based on their roots, leaves and growth habits and how wet the potting mix is. At this point, when someone asks how often do you water your orchids, your answer is: whenever they need it.

Col Fraser

On April 20th, at 86 years of age, Col Fraser passed away, having not been in the best of health for some time, which had prevented him attending meetings. With him went many years of intimate knowledge of orchid care and cultivation – particularly cymbidiums. A stroke, a few years ago, certainly slowed him down, but he was determined to get mobile again so as to be up and around his family and his orchids. This he managed and attended show and meetings when he could.

Col had been around orchids most of his life. His wife even related that he had gone out and bought an orchid (a cymbidium of course!) on the day they were married.

He first joined Sutherland in the early to mid 70's, gaining prizes in various genera but achieving greatest success with his cymbidiums. His interest in them saw him become one of the foundation members of the Cymbidium Club of Australia.

An active member in both clubs, Col regularly exhibited at meetings and in all the major shows of the time. The quality of his plants saw him gain many prizes, a number of awards and his flowers were accepted by the Flower Co-op, which had stringent criteria for overseas export.

The quality of his plants can be seen in that, in the late 70's, he was offered \$2000 cash for one of his cymbidiums by an interstate grower who had travelled up to see him - a substantial amount for that time. The grower went away disappointed as Col turned him down but later mericloned the plant, making somewhat more than the \$2000 offered.

Col will be remembered by many as a friendly, quiet and unassuming gentleman from whom one could learn a lot if you were prepared to ask or listen.



Cym. Sally Alexandra 'Colmaurin' HCC/AOC

Col Fraser 1981

A very good green for its time

Colin Dennis Fraser

3 May 1935 – 11 April 2021



Submitted by David Brooks

Coming Soon in 2021

- Bankstown Orchid Soc, 20-23rd May ,
Chester Square Shopping Centre
- *Cancelled : North Shore Orchid Soc, 10-12 June, St Ives Shopping Village*
- Mingara Orchid Club Fair & Show , 26-27th June, Mingara Recreation Club, Tumby Tumby
- Eastern Suburbs Orchid Soc. 31 July-1st August, Flower Power Mascot



The Speaker at June's Meeting: Wal Chapman 'Flora & Fauna of Southern South America'



JULY'S SPEAKER:

Jan Robinson: "Orchid Experiments During COVID-19"

Keep in touch via our Facebook Group: "Sutherland Orchid Society"

Post your growing tips, recent mail order purchases, questions or just what's in flower at your place..... we'd all love to hear about it.!

If you are having any problems, please contact Jan Robinson jadrob@bigpond.com or Dan Coulton 0419 466986 for assistance.



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.

SSOS GENERAL MEETING

Minutes – 10 May 2021

President Jan opened the meeting at 8.02 pm and extended a very warm welcome to members and visitors. Members (40 + 4 Visitors tonight) were thanked for attending our 4th meeting for 2021, and for all wearing our masks to comply with the sudden change to the Covid-19 regulations

Apologies: Murray Aldridge

New Members – Nil

Visitors: Kate Wade, Sylvia Fitch, Jenny Trang, David Liu

The Minutes from the April general meeting were accepted on a motion by Frank Daniel - Carried



GENERAL BUSINESS

VALE Col Fraser – who passed away in April aged 86. Col's long history of cymbidium orchid achievements, including 20 years as a member of SSOS was presented and a minute's silence was then observed in his honour.

Social Distancing - members were reminded to respect the current social distancing rules, and enable a fair go to everyone especially around the plant benching and sales table areas. Jan reminded members of our safety commitment – 'NEGLIGENCE - AND WE DON'T WANT ANY'

Supper - It was noted to members that a formal supper in the break remains deferred.

Sales Bench – members were reminded of the trial of a new rule as of June meeting - no sales prior to the break. Committee will determine if any other rules need to be re-introduced to make it fairer for all. Existing sales bench rules will be reviewed for distribution to members prior to next meeting. Committee to investigate the incident witnessed at the commencement of the meeting.

SSOS Plant Auction - members were advised that the annual plant auction normally held in May will now be deferred, most likely to 2022 due to current low attendance numbers and upcoming Shows. Members will be advised in advance via the Bulletin or by separate email.

SSOS Name Badges - as also mentioned last month, members were reminded to pick up your new badges if you haven't done so yet - 'they are free' please see David in the break.

Committee - members were advised that Rhonda Jackson was taking a break from 8 dedicated years as a member of the Committee, which included 7 years as Secretary. Jan extended a special thank-you to Rhonda on behalf of Committee and the Society. Members were asked if anyone was willing to fill the casual vacancy on the Committee. Thank-you to Dianne Phillips for your nomination.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Orchid Awards - Jan extended special congratulations to Vic Petrovski on his recent two awards – AM for Sc Lana Coryall 'Deborah', and HCC for Dend. Yoshiga 'Fantasy', well done Vic.

Speakers for Meetings - It was noted to members that Committee was continuing to communicate with potential speakers for meetings and requested if anyone could do so, please come forward and advise us so we can schedule a month. Wal Chapman has kindly offered to give us a talk in

June on Orchids and Flora of South America

Tonight's Talk - Gary Hodder gave us a fantastic insight into the culture and conditions required for the ultimate success with deciduous dendrobiums. The photographs of the long cascading flowering canes in the collections and nurseries he had encountered in his travels were quite breathtaking. I'm sure we are all looking at the ones we may have in our collections in a new light and with greater expectations!

Thank-you Gary and we would look forward to your next talk.

SSOS Spring Show – We have the dates of 9,10,11 September pencilled in as agreed with Woollooware Shores Retirement Village (subject to any sudden Covid rule changes). Committee will work through the details and advise members as soon as possible either via the Bulletin or separate mail out.

2021 Southern Orchid Spectacular (24 - 26 Sept.)- The SOS Show Marshall requested expressions of interest from SSOS to put on a display. A vote was put to members at this meeting, and the general consensus was yes, but possibly a table top not a large floor display. Committee will discuss and determine the probability of which Class might be possible and further advise members when possible.

Mini Talk - Dend. Speciosum Project – Just prior to the break, Graeme Davies requested the opportunity to present a number of ideas and thoughts to the meeting in regards to the possibility of initiating a conservation project to restock some of the fire ravaged natural habitat areas in particular, with Dend. Speciosum. Graeme asked that any member that can offer any assistance or advice to help further this project, to please be in contact.

Bulletin – From our Editor Melissa, please continue to send in your flowering plants photos, and any articles you could share with your fellow members.

OTHER ITEMS

Raffle Plants for May – Cymbidium hybrid in spike, Maxillaria cerifera, Dend. Gulginni (Aussie native hybrid), Pholidota imbricata, Oncidium hybrid in flower, Brassia 'Brown's Sunrise'

Name Badge Draw: David Brooks

Raffle Winners: Rhonda, Robert Cawley, Terry Thompson, Pheng Sanaphay, Jenny Trang, Vic.

President's Award: Please refer to the result section in the Bulletin

Judges Choice: Please refer to the result section in the Bulletin.

Next General Meeting: Monday 14 June @ 8pm

Jan closed the meeting at approx. 9.30pm and thanked all members and visitors for attendance.

NATIVE ORCHIDS NSW

Rare, critically endangered orchids discovered in NSW Southern Highlands after wet summer

Finding a pot-bellied greenhood orchid on the New South Wales South Coast is extremely difficult.

For starters, the plant only flowers for a couple of weeks a year and not necessarily every year.

When it does flower, the petals are the size of your fingernail, which makes it all the more remarkable that a group of about 170 of the rare orchids have been found in the NSW Southern Highlands.

"They've been known for quite a while in the Shoalhaven, so it's exciting to have a large-range extension for the species to the west and up in elevation as well," NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) threatened species officer David Bain said.

"They're rare, they're listed as a critically endangered species and so every new population that we find gives us more confidence that we will be able to conserve the species into the future," Dr Bain said.

The discovery of the rare orchid comes on the back of a wet summer and a biodiversity mapping project that was already monitoring a population of the rare orchid in Jervis Bay.



Submitted by Graeme Davies

MONTHLY JUDGING RESULTS

For : **May-21**

PLANT OF NIGHT

Winner Ddc. cobbianum

OPEN CLASS HYBRID

Winner C. Susie's Toy

OPEN CLASS SPECIES

Winner Ddc. cobbianum

INTERMEDIATE

Winner Ctt. portiata 'Coerulea' x B. nodosa

NOVICE & JUNIOR

Winner Rlc. Rosebud

PRESIDENT'S CHOICE

Winner C. Portia 'Coerulea'

CLASS # 1 AUSTRALIAN NATIVE SPECIES

1st Den. monophyllum

2nd Den. rigidum 'Bob'

3rd Den. bigibbum

CLASS # 2 PAPHIOPEDILUMS HYBRIDS

1st Paph. Agnes Wong x Yi-Ying Spring Mist

CLASS # 3 AUSTRALIAN NATIVE HYBRIDS

1st Den. Burle 'Sky'

CLASS # 5 DENDROBIUM HYBRIDS

1st Den. Yoshiga 'Fantasy'

CLASS # 6 LAELIINAE HYBRIDS -NON CLASSICAL & CLUSTERS

1st C. Susie's Toy

2nd Laelia anceps 'Australian Frangapani'

3rd C. Deception 'Grace'

4th Laelia anceps

CLASS # 7 ONCIDIINAE HYBRIDS

1st Wils. Orobino 'Coronal'

2nd Onc. Pesky Ned

3rd Colm. Jungle Monarch x Oda. Debutante 'Oxbow'

CLASS # 8 CYMBIDIUM HYBRIDS

1st Cym. Jessie Blakiston x Dural Dream 'Picture'

2nd Cym. Butterfly Kisses 'Splashette'

3rd Cym. Plush Canyon 'Red Eye'

4th Cym. Butterfly Kisses 'Viridian'

CLASS # 9 SPECIES ASIAN

1st Ddc. cobbianum

2nd Paph. fairrieanum

3rd Paph. spicerianum

4th Cym. mastersii

5th Max. nigrescens

CLASS # 10 MISC. HYBRIDS

1st Bulb. Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry'

2nd Bulb. Wilmar Galaxy Star

3rd Mtssa. Kauai's Choice 'Tropical Fragrance'

R. Trevenar

P. Sanaphay

R. Trevenar

R. Nicol

J. Ng

D. Mitsios

L. Buivids

C. Brandon

L. Buivids

J. Robinson

C. Brandon

V. Petrovski

P. Sanaphay

G. Hodder

V. Petrovski

V. Petrovski

D. Brooks

D. Brooks

W. & J. Chapman

J. Costa

V. Petrovski

V. Petrovski

V. Petrovski

R. Trevenar

D. Mitsos

J. Robinson

L. Buivids

W. & J. Chapman

D. Phillips

W. & J. Chapman

V. Petrovski

CLASS # 11 SPECIES OTHER THAN ASIAN

- 1st C. portia 'Coerulea'
- 2nd Onc. sotoanum
- 3rd Stenoglottis longifolia

CLASS # 12 NOVICE HYBRIDS

- 1st Rlc. Rosebud
- 2nd Phal 'unknown'
- 3rd Onc. Wildcat 'Bobcat'
- 4th Rlc. Focus Taiwan 'Orchis'

CLASS # 14 INTERMEDIATE HYBRIDS

- 1st Ctt. portiata 'Coerulea' x B. nodosa
- 2nd Leomesezia Lava Burst 'Puanani'
- 3rd Blc. Chia Lin 'Shinsu'
- 4th Cattleya 'unknown'
- 5th Den. Hilda Poxon

CLASS # 15 INTERMEDIATE SPECIES

- 1st Gomesa crispa
- 2nd Coel. ovalis
- 3rd Paph. insigne
- 4th Ddc. saccolabium

D. Mitsos
J. Robinson
W. & J. Chapman

J. Ng
J. Ng
S. Tropoulos
S. Tropoulos

R. Nicol
R. Cawley
J. Chan
J. Chan
R. Jackson

R. Cawley
J. Hely
J. Hely
R. Nicol



A Neat Trick !

(from the *Gardening Australia* TV show)

Use a sauce bottle cap on your seasol container for accurate pouring and to stop the stinky stuff from going everywhere!

