

# SUTHERLAND SHIRE ORCHID SOCIETY

**BULLETIN: September 2021**

**[www.ssos.org.au](http://www.ssos.org.au)**

## ***SSOS Members, Bloomin' Awesome At Home***



## **SEPTEMBER MEETING CANCELLED**

**Next Meeting:  
To Be Advised !**

### **SSOS MEETINGS @**

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



Find us on FB

### **PRESIDENT**

*Jan Robinson*

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

*Frank Daniel*

### **TREASURER**

*Margaret Spring*

### **SECRETARY**

*David Hicks*

*davehicks*

*@optusnet.com.au*

*0431 799 230*

### **EDITOR**

*Melissa Karayannis*

*mjbk1@bigpond.com*



# SSOS Members, Bloomin'Awesome At Home



Platanus Tongue  
'Thalia'  
(Melissa Karayannis)



Coel.  
Unchained  
Melody Alba  
(Gary Hodder)



Den. speciosum Pedunculatum  
'Heberton Gold' X  
speciosum Grandiflorum  
'Best 2005'  
(Vic Petrovski)



Paph. Ultimate Warrior  
(Jan Robinson)



Cym. Pearl Jet Set (Frank Daniel)



Cym. Midnight Muffet "Spotted  
Doc" (Diane Phillips)



Cym. Hiroshima Sweet  
Eyes 'Pink Temptation'  
(David Hicks)



Osmoglossum pulchellum  
(Wal Chapman)



Ddc. cobbianum  
(Wal Chapman)



Ddc. javiaense  
(Ian Ware)



# SSOS Members, Bloomin'Awesome At Home



Coel. Cristata  
'Unchained Melody Alba'  
(Margaret Spring)



Cym. Ruby  
Pendant  
'Shiraz'  
(David Hicks)



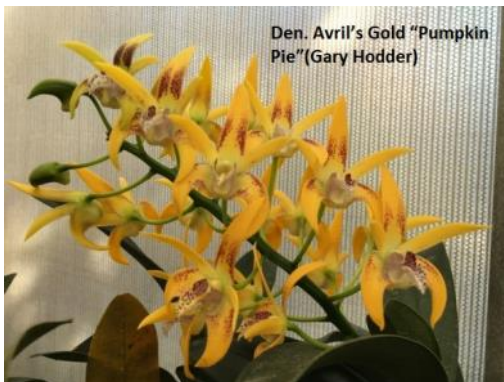
Den. unknown  
(Diane Phillips)



Den. monophyllum  
(Gray Hodder)



Rhynchilus gigantea Alba  
(Wai Chapman)



Den. Avril's Gold "Pumpkin  
Pie"(Gary Hodder)



Phai. schilleriana (Murray Aldridge)



Cym. Sleepy White Delight  
(Vic Petrovski)

Cym. Paradisian Ruby



Den. (Rutherford Pink  
Moon x Zip)  
X speciosum var  
speciosum  
(Melissa Karayannis)



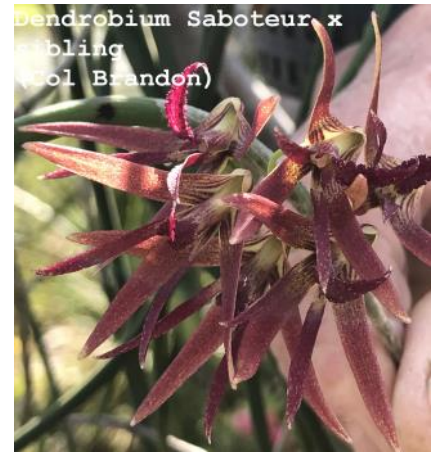
# SSOS Members, Bloomin'Awesome At Home



*Ada aurantiaca*  
(Robert Nicol)



*Sophranitis coccinea*  
'Royale'4n x self (Robert Nicol)



*Dendrobium Saboteur* x  
sibling  
(Nicol Brandon)



*Wilsonara Hecker Pass*  
'Autumn Gold' (Robert Nicol)



*Den. Unknown*  
(Robert Nicol)



*Wilsonara Tiger*  
Barb  
(Robert Nicol)



*Max. porphyrostele*  
(Melissa Karayannis, ex Phil Harrington)



*Pterstylis Curta*  
(Vic Petrovski)



*Den. Rhubarb Sensation*  
x *Windermere*  
(Gary Hodder)



*Onc. Twinkle 'Red Fantasy'* (David Hicks)



*Trias combodiana*  
(Murray Aldridge)



# SSOS Members, Bloomin'Awesome At Home



Col Brandon's



## Dendrobium Speciosum Flowers

Gary Hodder's





# *Bloomin'Awesome @ John Hely's*





# President's Message...



Dear Fellow Members—Happy Spring!



Who's having the best flowering season EVER for Aussie native orchids?!? Col is having a cracker and I know Gary Hodder is pleased with the number of spikes on his speciosums. This year I don't have to worry about protecting my speciosum buds from the cockatoos, the slugs got 'em first.

Time to get stuck into repotting, if you haven't started already. My *Cattleya bowriangiana* was looking like it needed a repot as several new growths were pushing up against the side of the pot.



That plant has the weirdest pseudobulbs! More like hard round balls covered in pimples. Splitting the plant in half and putting both pieces back into one pot would make it look better. Or so I thought. Wrong! Those bulbs do not separate easily—they snap off in the middle instead. OOPS! What a botched job that was. Now I have five pots instead of one specimen plant, assuming they all survive the damage. Anyone up for an auction?

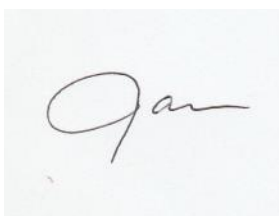
Thank you to Vic who sent photos and tips on how to fix up my *Lycastes* after last month's Bulletin article and thanks also to George who supplied me with a variety of water well pots for that purpose. I may need another bush house if those 20 plants go berserk in their new pots.



Aussie native orchids are in Spring flowering mode and we are fortunate to have heaps of bush tracks in our LGA to explore during exercise walks. Some of us members are so desperate for activities, native orchid spotting has morphed into a competition. I recently received a text from one bragging, "I found a *Thelymitra* bigger than yours, na na na naaa na" with a photo attached--so **game on!**

Need I even say that the September monthly meeting is a no goer? Ditto our Spring Show, at least for September. Fingers crossed that we will be able to have a monthly meeting before Christmas!

In the meantime, stay safe and keep enjoying your orchids.



## 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.

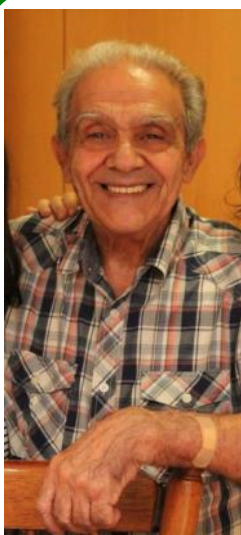
If you would like to join in, just email ([mjbk1@bigpond.com](mailto:mjbk1@bigpond.com)) photos to Editor as they open up!



**#56 Pot. Burana Beauty x  
Slc. Red Princess  
(Ian Ware)**



**#16 C. Toowong x Sc Beaufort  
(Ian Ware)**



It is with great sadness that I announce the passing of my Father-In-Law, Mark Karayannis.

Mark took up orchid growing during his early retirement in his 50's. He became so passionate about orchids that he became an orchid judge. He was a member of a few select orchid societies including SSOS. He had been in Goodhew Aged Care Facility for the last four years after he suffered a major stroke.

-Editor

## We still need help with bulletin content!

**Email** photos of orchids currently in bloom and their names to Melissa at [mjbk1@bigpond.com](mailto:mjbk1@bigpond.com) for the next bulletin

**Want to write an article for the bulletin??**

Email to [mjbk1@bigpond.com](mailto:mjbk1@bigpond.com)

***Both before Sunday Sept 26th please !***





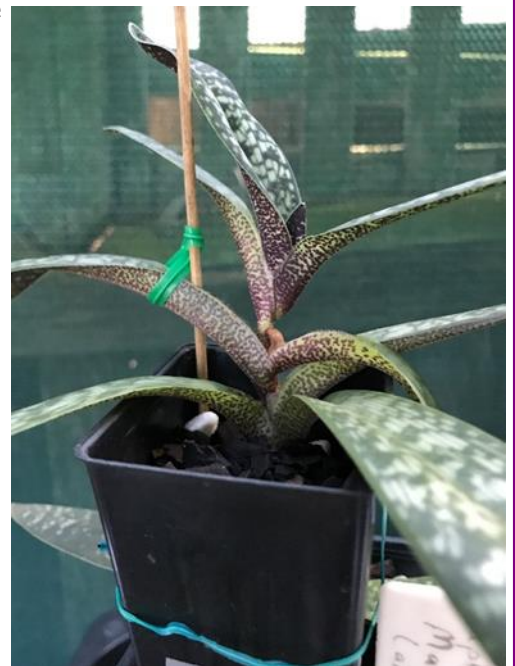
# A “DUH” MOMENT



Do you ever have one of those moments, when someone tells you something that is so blatantly obvious, you scratch your head and wonder why you couldn't have figured it out for yourself without having to ask? That happened recently with my Paph Magic Lantern. I haven't grown this plant very well, having flowered it only once in about 8 years. Two years ago the main growth put out a stolon, one of those weird runner-type growths that don't come up at the base of the main plant, they poke their head up at the edge of the pot and kinda wave around in the breeze on a spindly looking stem until they decide to put down roots. This baby plant seemed to eventually sort itself out without any interference on my part, thank goodness.

The following year, another stolon appeared and definitely needed some help when it tried to put down an anchor point, as the new root was several inches or so above the potting mix. Not wanting to separate this baby growth from

the other stolon until its new roots were established, I cut a 50mm tube down one side, cut the bottom out, and put it around Magic's new growth, filling it with potting mix and trying to tape the pot back together at the cut to enclose the baby plant. (Don't give me any credit for this ingenious idea, I pinched it from Heath!)



Magic seemed to be reasonably happy with this stacked approach, or so I thought anyway. It didn't exactly jump out of its tube with vigour and delight—but it didn't die, either. I left it in its shaded spot and didn't give the plant much thought. In winter this year, the second stolon growth started to throw new roots half way up the spindly little stem! Now what am I supposed to do, build yet another tube “tower” to cover the roots? And why was this Paph being so cantankerous?



I had a texting whinge to Heath and sent several photos. He texted back, “It's stretching towards the sun. Might need more light.” **DUH!** Of course my plant needs more light! Why didn't I think of that? Why else would the growth be so spindly? Further advice was to take all the bits out of the pot and check what is happening below the surface.

No small feat getting it out in one piece without damaging either the roots or any of the three plants. But lo and behold, the roots looked fantastic on both the “old” stolon and the “new” one! Good enough to separate babies from each other and from the mother plant I reckoned. A couple of snips of the connecting umbilical cord with sterilised secateurs and bingo, I've got 3 plants instead of one. It was certainly much easier to repot them separately!





I asked Heath what to do about the new stolon that had roots half way up the stem, specifically what should I do with the 4 leaves below those new roots? If it was his plant, he'd be "brutal" he said and take those leaves off since they will die eventually anyway when covered with potting mix. Although it goes against my grain to remove perfectly good-looking leaves, why ask for advice if you're not going to follow it? Off came the leaves, the new roots as well as the old were covered with potting mix, and the plant looked happier immediately.

Now I have Paph Magic Lantern times three. All are in a much sunnier spot than previously and hopefully will produce flowers instead of more stolons and/or roots up the stems. Stay tuned!!!

By Jan Robinson with assistance from Heath Myers

(Thanks, Heath!!)



#### NOTICE:

"This is just a reminder that if any member of your society has an orchid which they think is worthy of either a cultural or quality award please contact either

Ian Chalmers at [cattleya@optusnet.com.au](mailto:cattleya@optusnet.com.au) or

Garrie Bromley at [glbromley@optusnet.com.au](mailto:glbromley@optusnet.com.au) in the metropolitan area

or one of the regional judging panel leaders,

Travis Milton at [captainkoat@hotmail.com](mailto:captainkoat@hotmail.com) in the south west area,

Peter Anderson at [peter.anderson53@gmail.com](mailto:peter.anderson53@gmail.com) in the Hunter area,

Dick Cooper at [origma505@gmail.com](mailto:origma505@gmail.com) in the mid north coast area,

Bob Wilson at [Robert.wilson46@gmx.com](mailto:Robert.wilson46@gmx.com) for the far north coast area.

You will need to submit photos of a single flower, the spike and the whole plant as well as a few measurements, overall size of flower etc. The judges will be able to guide you through the process all you need to do is ask.

Keep safe & well,

Lesley Bromley for Ian Chalmers State Registrar"

**EYI**





## Welcome to Wal Chapman's ***Guess The Genera!***

*Take a guess then read the up-side-down answers*



*Paphiopedilum Maudiae* Colouratum

*Rhynchosstylus gigantea* Alba

*Dendrochilum cobbianum*

*Pterostylis curta*

*Maxillaria nigrescens*



**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.



# Orchid virus by Gary Hodder

At the moment many people throughout the world are talking about virus namely Covid-19 virus. For orchid growers there are also viruses that are killing their orchids. Unlike Covid-19 virus, orchid virus can not be treated or cured. There are almost 30 different virus that affect orchid leaves, flowers and growth, so if symptoms appear it is most important that the affected plant be isolated and burnt or placed in a plastic bag ,sealed and put in the garbage bin for the council collection. Do not put it in the green recycle bin. Wash your hands with a sanitizer after handling every orchid.

Viruses are spread by transmitting the plant sap from one plant to another by leaves rubbing against each other, or by tools not being sterilized after use on each orchid, or using dirty pre-used pots. Kill and remove all insects as they can carry virus

When repotting again it is important to sterilize tools and pots between different plants and do not use the old potting media as this may contain a virus. Use new, clean newspaper on the bench for each plant when repotting.

It is important that when you purchase new orchids they be quarantined from you existing orchids to ensure they are healthy before transferring them to your orchid house,

Some of the more common viruses are:-

- Odontoglossum ringspot virus. This virus generally appears as lighter circles on the leaves.
- Another virus that I have been aware of lately is a virus the attacks the flowers of Dendrobium speciosums as shown on the photograph right.
- Cymbidium Mosaic Virus. This virus generally appears as spots or light coloured stripes on the cymbidium leaves





# Local Native Orchid Spotting



Jan Robinson, Rhonda Jackson & Ian Ware have all submitted photos of native orchid 'finds' this month. The orchids were all spotted on walks within their 'Covid-restricted' areas. Here they are!



Caladenia catenata



Caladenia carnea



Diuris maculata  
(East Heathcote)



Thelymitra ixioides (no spots)  
(Royal National Park)



Caladenia catenata  
(Bush track near Engadine)



Glossodia minor  
(East Heathcote)



Thelymitra ixioides (with spots)  
(East Heathcote)



Caladenia catenata  
(Bush track near Engadine)



Thelymitra  
ixioides  
(Spotted Sun  
Orchid)



Thelymitra ixioides (no spots)  
(East Heathcote)





# Local Native Orchid Spotting



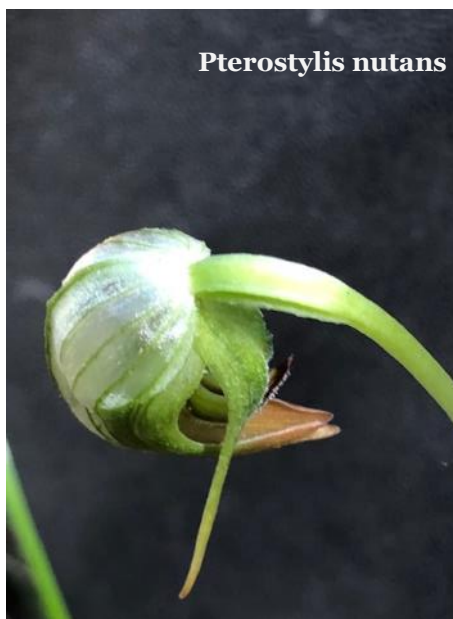
*Pterostylis grandiflora*



*Thelymitra ixioides* (no spots)  
(East Heathcote)



*Pterostylis longifolia*



*Pterostylis nutans*



*Lyperanthus suaveolens*  
(Royal National Park)



*Thelymitra ixioides* (with spots)  
(East Heathcote)

