

Next Meeting:

Monday 12th February 2024, 8pm.

Speaker – Melissa Karayannis on Fusarium The 'fungus amongst us' plus on the 'P' in 'NPK'



(See page 12)

NOTE – members, partners and visitors, please ensure you sign our attendance book on entry to the meeting hall.

Use of hand sanitiser, and social distancing is highly encouraged.





Cover Photo – Vuyl. Home Spun Sprite 'Sapphire Seduction' exhibited in January by D. Mitsios

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc. Bulletin – February 2024



Web: www.ssos.org.au - E: info@ssos.org.au

The Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc. was founded in 1952 and is dedicated to the promotion, development and encouragement of a general interest and understanding of all aspects of orchid culture.

Monthly Meetings -

Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at the Uniting Church Hall, corner Flora and Merton Streets, Sutherland @ 8pm, doors open 7pm. Visitors are always welcome (please arrive by 7.45pm to check in, plant benching by 7.50pm)

President: Rhonda Jackson **Vice President:** Frank Daniel **Secretary:** David Hicks E: davehicks@outlook.com.au M: 0431 799 230 **Treasurer:** Margaret Spring

Committee: Murray Aldridge, Diane Phillips, Melissa Karayannis, Jenny Sharpham, Mark Drury.

(Committee meets 1st Wed. monthly except January - Tradies Gymea @ 7.30pm)

Life Members: *Murray Aldridge, Wal & Janette Chapman, Jan Robinson, Bob Moar, Col Brandon, Frank Daniel.*

Bulletin / Website: David Hicks

Member Contributions – to have your 'Photos @ Home' or written articles included in the Bulletin, please send to: davehicks@outlook.com.au (*prior to* **28**th each month)

In this Month's Bulletin:

The Healing Power of Orchids – Courtesy Mark Drury (page 11)

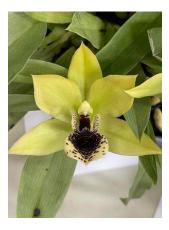
Boisduval Scale - Identification and Some Basic Treatment (page 6)

SSOS Grower's Group – Sat. 24th February 2024 (see details page 13) Easter Show Competition / Promo. Cart– (see details OSNSW flyer p. 12)

Reminder – annual fees will be overdue after the February meeting! (please ensure you are financial - see payment details page12)

Monthly Benching Results – Jan. 2024

January Benching







OPEN		
CLASS # 2	PAPHIOPEDILUMS HYBRIDS	
1st	Paph. Gemstone's Randschild	H. Myers
2nd	Paph. Johanna Burkhardt	D. Mitsios
3rd	Paph. Michael Koopowitz	D. Mitsios
4th	Paph. Lynleigh Koopowitz 'Ripper'	J. Robinson
5th	Paph. Lynleigh Koopowitz	J. Robinson
CLASS # 3	AUSTRALIAN NATIVE HYBRIDS	
1st	Sarco. Amber Dawn	D. Mitsios
2nd	Sarco. Bobby Dazzler 'Dark Pink'	D. Mitsios
3rd	Sarco. Melody x Velvet	D. Brooks
4th	Den. Berle 'Sky'	C. Brandon
CLASS # 4	LAELIINAE HYBRIDS (CLASSICAL SHAPE)	
1st	C. Dal's Beau	D. Mitsios
2nd	Otr. Redland Kew	M. Karayannis
CLASS # 5	DENDROBIUM HYBRIDS	
1st	Den. Andree Millar	V. Petrovski
2nd	Den. Snow Boy	V. Petrovski
CLASS#6	LAELIINAE HYBRIDS (NON-CLASSICAL SHAPE & CLUSTER)	
1st	C. Deception Mosaie	G. Hodder
2nd	C. Penny Kuroda 'Spots' x C. Orchidom Leopard 'svd'	V. Petrovski
3rd	Bc. Mary Pitman	J. Ng
CLASS # 7	ONCIDIINAE HYBRIDS	
1st	Wils. Pacific Panache 'Dorothy Jean'	D. Mitsios
2nd	Onc. Cherry Fudge 'Carmela'	D. Mitsios
3rd	Vuylstekerara Home Spun Sprite 'Sapphire Seduction'	D. Mitsios
4th	Beallara Diana Dunn	R. Jackson















Monthly Benching Results – Jan. 2024 cont'd

CLASS#8	CYMBIDIUM HYBRIDS	
1st	Cym. Sleepy Sarah 'Snow Blind'	V. Petrovski
CLASS # 9	MISCELLANEOUS HYBRIDS	
1st	Prom. Catarina 'Top Gold'	J. Robinson
2nd	Phrag. Perseus 'Highclaire'	M. Karayannis
3rd	Prom. Cachaca	J. Robinson
4th	Bulb. tingabarinum x treshchii	M. Karayannis
5th	Vanda Pakchong Blue	D. Mitsios
CLASS #11	SPECIES LAELIINAE	
1st	C. tigrina leopoldii 'svd' x 'Paul'	L. Watkins
2nd	C. sanguiloba	M. Aldridge
3rd	C. fournieri	M. Aldridge
4th	C. longipes	M. Aldridge
CLASS # 12	SPECIES ASIAN OTHER THAN COELOGYNINAE	
1st	Cym. suavissimum	D. Mitsios
2nd	Den. hercoglossum	J. Robinson
3rd	Ren. vietnamensis	D. Brooks
4th	Bulb. lobbii	R. Jackson
CLASS#13	SPECIES OTHER THAN ASIAN & LAELIINAE	
1st	Lyc. xytriophora	J. Robinson
2nd	V. falcata	J. Robinson
3rd	Stanhopea hernandezii	D. Phillips
4th	Angraecum magdalenae	D. Went
NOVICE CLAS	55	
CLASS #18	NOVICE MISCELLANEOUS	
1st	Bulb. Memoria Richard Mizuta	C. Mans
2nd	Den. Excelsa	S. Tropoulos
3rd	Beallara Ysabella 'Lunar Eclipse'	S. Tropoulos
4th	Onc. 'unknown'	S. Tropoulos
CLASS #19	NOVICE SPECIES	
1st	Den. moschatum	P. Sheaffe
2nd	Species 'unknown'	S. Tropoulos
INTERMEDIA	TE CLASS:	
CLASS # 25	INTERMEDIATE SPECIES	
1st	Gongora galeata	M. Drury



To view current catalogue - click on the following Link: <u>DUNO Catalogue</u>

A Variety of lovely Stanhopeas for this Month: courtesy – Rob Nicol



Stan. pozoi



Stan. inodora



Stan. 'unknown'



Stan. wardii var. aurea



Stan. assidensis



Stan. ruckeri









Monthly Benching Winners – Jan. 2024

Open Judges Choice Species + PON exhibited by – L. Watkins



C. tigrina leopoldii 'svd' x 'Paul'

Open Judges Choice Hybrid

exhibited by – H. Myers



Paph. Gemstone's Randschild

Novice Judges Choice *exhibited by – P. Sheaffe*



Den, moschatum

Intermediate Judges Choice exhibited by – M. Drury



Gongora galeata

President's Choice *exhibited by – P. Sheaffe*

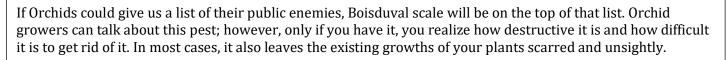


Den. moschatum

Boisduval Scale – (Diaspis boisduvalii Signoret)

The following is a 'hybrid' article courtesy of Orchid's World, (author unknown) your Editor, and from SSOS member's talks, to help identify and offer some basic housekeeping hints and treatments.

There seems to be a surge of this pest at the moment (maybe due to the current humidity?) well a current surge amongst your editor's collection anyway!



Boisduval scale is a serious threat to Orchids. Miller and Davidson (2005) list boisduval scale as one of the 43 most serious armoured scale pests worldwide. Unfortunately, it is also not only widespread in the tropics but it can be found in more temperate climates.

How do they look? (refer attached photo top left)

Females: Mostly white to light yellow, circular to oval in shape, around 1.2 mm in diameter, covered with a white transparent shed skin. Adult females, produce up to 200 eggs that hatch after a week. The little crawlers grow up quickly and can live up to seven months.

Males: Mostly elongate in shape, about 1mm in length, with a white cover and marginal shed skin.

A Word of Advice: *Check everything you buy - always make sure the plants you purchase do not have this in particular, or any other type of scale or pest infestation!*

Damage: The damage is not restricted to one place. Boisduval scales can be found in the leaf axils, hidden under sheaths, under new leaves, close to the ground near the roots, on pseudo bulbs, bark, aerial portions of the plant, etc. (*refer attached photos top centre*)

When you notice leaves with yellow stains, *(refer photo top right)* if you lift the leave, under the leave you will notice a "white messy looking mass" of Boisduval scale.

A colony of thousands of nymphs, is ready to desecrate your orchids. Often you can recognize the adult males and females. All orchids are attacked: Brassias, Bulbophyllums, Cattleyas, Cymbidiums, Dendrobiums, Encyclias, Epidendrums, Oncidiums, Vandas, etc.

If you get Boisduval Scale it is extremely difficult to get rid of it. Some suggest to keep plants apart so that their leaves do not touch to stop "crawlers" moving from infested plants onto clean ones; however, that's not the answer, and generally not practical for most of us anyway.

Pesticides: Horticultural oils are effective for controlling scale insects; however, orchids are relative sensitive plants (and expensive!) so you do not want to kill them. (*cont'd next page*)

Boisduval Scale - cont'd

Suggested Treatments: Dipping "cotton wool or cotton buds" in rubbing (Isopropyl) alcohol (non-diluted) and wash over the infestation, works most of the time. Crawlers try to establish themselves on the underside of the leaves, or other relative easily accessible places. *(use cautiously in well ventilated areas)*

With Cattleyas, the gentle use of a toothbrush with Isopropyl alcohol (non-diluted) l on the bulbs can be effective, remember to remove the old sheafes first (and the newer ones where possible) A light spray of water generally loosens them up, and be careful of any new growths emerging or hiding at the base of the forward growing bulbs. (Some growers suggest dilute 1 part alcohol to 4 parts of water for follow up treatments)

Plants can also be effectively sprayed with commercially available 'Scale Guns' or I find a spray with neem oil solution works well, but with whatever you choose, you have to repeat the process several times over many weeks for success.

If a plant has a serious infestation and considered worthwhile to try and save, remove the whole plant from the pot and any old media from the roots and immerse into a bucket of your pesticide solution for a few minutes, remove and allow to dry, Trim off badly damaged areas where possible, and repot in a new pot and fresh mix. Follow up with a maintenance treatment spray either from the above, or using your chemical of choice, at intervals over the following weeks, then on a regular basis throughout the year until under control.

Being on guard by checking your plants regularly, and maintaining good plant spacing and air movement in your growing areas, certainly helps in the war against this scourge of the orchid enthusiast.

Remember to always be mindful of your own health and safety when handling or breathing insecticides, apply on still days, and use appropriate protection such as masks and gloves, and wash hands and arms well on completion.

From the January Meeting

Congratulations to our Winners of the Member's Popular Vote from the 202. Monthly Open Judge's Choice Awards:

Member's Choice Hybrid Dimitrios Mitsios Member's Choice Species Jan Robinson

m. Blackstump 'Come in Spinne

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc. MINUTES GENERAL MEETING

8th January 2024

President Rhonda declared the meeting open at 8pm wishing everyone a good evening, **HAPPY NEW YEAR** and welcome to our January meeting.

I hope everyone is looking forward to a great year.

A very warm welcome was extended to our visitors tonight: Serena Lloyd, Gretchen Clarke, Graham Towle.

APOLOGIES: Archie Mitsios, George Birss, Christoff Mans, Mick and Di Hannah, Phil and Marcia Green.

NEW MEMBERS: Nil

After the business part of this evening, we will be presenting the Open Monthly Judges Choices from the species and hybrids benched during 2023. We will then be asking you to vote on the popular choice from each category, and the two winners will win a bottle of wine to celebrate 2024!

MINUTES:

President asked for a motion that the December Minutes as distributed in the January Bulletin, were accurate. *Paul Sheaffe* motioned they were correct. Seconded *Melissa Karayannis*. Carried.

Correspondence In:

- Various January Society Bulletins including the January Orchid News from the OSNSW.
- Flyer from the Shoalhaven Orchid Society regarding the Orchid Workshop in Nowra on 9th and 10th March
- Flyer from Mingara Orchid Club regarding their Fair & Show on 29-30 June.

Correspondence Out:

• Copies of our January Bulletin emailed to OSNSW and various other Societies.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

Members were reminded that our annual membership fees for 2024 are now due and that we do prefer payment by direct deposit.

However, if you wish to pay by cash tonight, please come up and see Jan Riley who is assisting our Treasurer Margaret with this task.

David has the renewal forms to advise if your contact details have changed.

ANNUAL POINT SCORE COMP 2024:

Now that we are moving into the 2024 points competition, we wish to ensure our Judges are not being delayed by benching cards being filled out incorrectly or plants being in entered into the wrong class, especially with the Novice and Intermediate Species and Hybrids. If you're not sure, to please ask for assistance.

2023 ANNUAL POINT SCORE AWARDS:

President mentioned we had some point score and appreciation awards still to present from the December meeting, but none of the recipients were present tonight, so will be held over to the February meeting.

MARCH AGM – President reminded members that our AGM will be held in March, with all Committee positions becoming vacant pending re-election, and to please give some thought to nominating for a position. We especially wish to fill the role of Vice President and potentially one or two committee positions. Nomination forms will be available with your February Bulletin, and at the February meeting where you can complete one and give it to either David or myself.

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc.

MINUTES – conť d

GENERAL MEETING

8th January 2024

ITEMS OF INTEREST:

Shoalhaven Orchid Society is hosting the Southwest and Regional Workshop on 9th and 10th March at the Nowra Golf Club which overlooks the Shoalhaven River.

It will be a one-and-a-half-day workshop spent with like-minded orchid enthusiasts. There will be guest speakers and orchid vendors on site. Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided on Saturday and morning tea on Sunday. A joint dinner will be organised (at own expense) on the Saturday night.

Accommodation is available in Bomaderry and Nowra and there are nearby camping and caravan parks. We'll let you know further details such as guest speakers and vendors, start/finish times and registration costs when we receive the details.

ACTIVITIES FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS:

February – Melissa Karayannis will be talking to us on Fusarium 'The Fungus Amongst Us, plus an insight into the 'P' in 'NPK' fertilizer ratios.

March - our AGM plus Gary Hodder presenting his talk on Orchids for New Growers

April - Wal Chapman speaking on 'Preparing your Orchids for Shows'

May – Annual Auction Night

TONIGHT'S ACTIVITY – after the supper break, we held the member's popular vote (PP presentation) of the Open Hybrids and Species Judges Choices from the 2023-point score competition.

Results:

Rhonda congratulated our winners who were presented with a bottle of wine – **Hybrid:** Dimitrios Mitsios for Cym. Blackstump 'Come in Spinner' **Species:** Jan Robinson for Paph malipoense. Members responded with a hearty round of applause.

MONTHLY PRIZE PRESENTATIONS:

Winner January Name Badge Draw: David Went

Raffle Winners for January:

R. Jackson, J. Riley, J. Hely, S. Fitch, D. Phillips, M. Spring, R. Nicol, B. Kypriotis, M. Karayannis. David thanked Barbra and George Kypriotis, Murray Aldridge and Col Brandon for their contributions of additional plants towards our raffle tonight.

Judging:

President thanked our Judging panel for this evening: David Brooks, Wal Chapman, Murray Aldridge, Jan Robinson, Trainee – John Ng. January Judges' Choice Awards: PLANT OF THE NIGHT: C. tigrina leopoldii 'svd' x Paul – L. Watkins JUDGES CHOICE OPEN HYBRID: Paph. Gemstones 'Randschild' – H. Myers JUDGES CHOICE OPEN SPECIES: C. tigrina leopoldii 'svd' x Paul – L. Watkins JUDGES CHOICE INTERMEDIATE: Gongora galeata – M. Drury JUDGES CHOICE NOVICE: Den. moschatum – P. Sheaffe PRESIDENT'S CHOICE: Den. moschatum – P. Sheaffe

President thanked everyone for their attendance to night, and we look forward to your company at our next meeting on the $12^{\rm th}$ February.

Would everyone please assist by putting the chairs and tables away, and if someone could sweep the floor it would be appreciated. If a table is dirty, would you please wipe it?

Meeting closed at 9.25pm,

Courtesy – Ian Ware



Den. guibertii (endemic to Thailand)



Bulbo. odoratissimum - M. Karayannis



Bc. Island Charm x C. Monte Elegance 'Pink Malo' - R. Nicol

More lovely Stanhopeas for this Month:

Jan Robinson



Stan. graveolens

Jan Robinson

Melissa Karayannis



Stan. inodora

Stan. radiosa

Neutrog February Newsletter To view the latest news and offerings from Neutrog - click on the following link:

Neutrog February Bulletin

The Healing Power of Orchids courtesy – Mark Drury

I have a friend who is a psychiatrist. One day he tried to explained to me his work in treating with, in his words, 'the broken people'.

These people are just like you and me, ordinary Australians who have worked hard all their lives, scrimped and saved for a house, raised children, earnt a career but may have unfortunately suffered mentally because of these past attributes and subsequent cultural aspects of silence, where it was seen as shameful to admit to suffering from mental health problems.

These 'broken people' through their seeing things no person should see, doing things a person shouldn't' do, or suffering through a pain that needed to be avoided, had reached a culminative effect upon their mental stability that caused both physical and mental detrition.

The burden upon the community, government and social services in treating these 'broken people' is immense. Medication, counselling, residential habitation, doctors, nurses, specialist welfare workers is only the tip of the iceberg in addressing these issues.

A great deal of the treatment goals is to achieve inner happiness, peace, calm, relaxation, enjoyment and a sense of self-worth. Does this sound familiar to you?

The love of collecting, growing, identifying and sharing experiences in being a part of a community that shares your love of Orchids is critical to a person's self-esteem and a flowering of belief that perhaps that person is worth something. Finding orchids, whatever category of you wish to specialize in, is only half the goal to fulfilling recovery, but it sure helps!

Personally, I have always loved orchids, especially since the day as a ten-year-old boy I was given a small cymbidium plant to grow and flower by a friend's father who had thousands growing on his double block of land and noticed me wandering through his plantation admiring his flowers.

Ever since that day long ago I have enjoyed trying to grow and expand my orchid collection from humble beginnings of a handful of basic easy to grow orchids (dendrobiums and cymbidiums) to my current collection covering my favorite orchid, Paphiopedilums.

I cannot stress enough to anyone but particularly Novice growers or the person still undecided if it's worth the risk to spend a dollar on a plant that may die the next day, how important it is to a person's self-worth and enjoyment in experiencing the joy and wonder of growing an orchid from seedling to flowering.

To join a society such as the Sutherland Shire Orchid Society or any other neighboring society or club is to bring into your life a love and appreciation of how wonderfully immersing yourself into the mysteries of the orchid world and learning to successfully grow such exotic and difficult plants to fulfilment of flowering and judgement by your peers.

Just receiving a simple placing is wonderful, to get a ribbon or a rosette is heaven sent. Just acknowledgment of your growing skill by your peers is justifiably uplifting.

I strongly encourage those Novice growers still unsure if their little old orchid with a single flower is good enough is display in our Winter or Spring shows, bring it forth for judgement and display. It matters not if you get a placing, it's the 'thrill of the chase' entering the competition to feel a part of the society in contributing for the public consumption the joy and healing power of an orchid.

Only people who share this love of orchids can really appreciate the overwhelming therapeutic joy of being a person who grows and collects one the world's most wonderful plant species!













Easter Show / OSNSW Promo Cart



Dates: The 2024 Show runs from Thursday 21 March to Tuesday 2 April at the Sydney Showgrounds in Homebush NSW.

General: The Orchid Society of NSW will be opera ⊠ng an information booth (a cart with a display of orchids) during the 4 days of orchid competition (26 and 27 March, and 1 and 2 April), manned by OSNSW judges and member volunteers providing orchid advice and society information to the thousands of passing garden enthusiasts.

Volunteer Shifts: 2 volunteers each shift (x 3 shifts/day...8am - 12, 12– 4 and 4–8pm) for 26 March & March 27, 1 April & 2 April.



We are thinking of you and send our best wishes to all our members who are currently recovering from recent health issues

REMINDER - Annual Membership Fees for 2024 are now over-due.

(Please Note: if any of your contact details have changed, please ensure you complete the *fee renewal form*, and return to the Secretary)

ANNUAL FEES:

Adult Single - \$15Adult Double - \$20Pensioner Single - \$10Pensioner Double - \$15Junior (under 16 years) - \$5(For Bulletin Postage - \$20 pa in addition to the above)

Method of Payment - preferably by direct deposit, or by cash at the meeting.

SOCIETY DIRECT DEPOSIT DETAILS:

BSB: 062-278. Account #: 10023286 Account Name: Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc.

*Please ensure you put your name in the reference field!!!









1st SSOS Grower's Group for 2024



DATE: Saturday 24th February 2024 VENUE: David Hicks @ 548 The Boulevarde Sutherland TIME: Commencing 1pm TOPIC: Open Discussion on your Cultural Questions



Session is open to all members, but especially for our Novice growers to bring along and discuss your troublesome plants, or please just come along to share your successes and expertise!



Local Orchid Spotting

Have you recently spotted one of our beautiful and unique Aust. native orchids in your local area? Like to share the photo with other members? Please forward to the email address below to have it published in our Bulletin. Many thanks - Editor

Please forward to: davehicks@outlook.com.au

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc.

CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

The Society has a Code of Conduct which members must comply with:

"Members and visitors shall treat each other in a respectful, friendly and cordial manner at our meetings and Society activities."











Upcoming Events for 2024.

Monday 12th February 2024 – SSOS General meeting. Speaker *Melissa Karayannis*: Fusarium: 'A Fungus Amongst Us' + The 'P' in NPK

Saturday 24th February 2024 – SSOS Grower's Group @ 1pm 548 The Boulevarde, Sutherland *(see details p.13)*

Friday / Saturday 9th & 10th March 2024 – South and West Region Orchid Workshop, Nowra Golf Club (*booking required, for details - see flyer as attached with last month's Bulletin*)

Monday 11th March 2024 – SSOS General Meeting and AGM. Speaker - *Gary Hodder:* 'Orchids for New Growers'

Monday 8th April 2024 – SSOS General Meeting. Speaker – *Wal Chapman:* 'Preparing your Orchids for the Shows'

Monday 13th May 2024 – SSOS General Meeting + Auction Night (*details advised closer to the meeting*)

Fri, Sat, Sun, 17th, 18th, and 19th May 2024 – Orchids Out West Fair Hawkesbury Showground *(see details in flyer page 12)*



Light Supper at Meetings

Tea or Coffee plus biscuits are available during the break at the back of the hall.

*As disposable cups are no longer provided, please remember to <u>bring along your own mug!</u>

Dear SSOS Members – we would really appreciate your **Photos @ Home or Articles** to include in our monthly Bulletins.

To contribute, please email to the Editor: David Hicks E: davehicks@outlook.com.au (by the 28th of each month) *thank-you - Editor*

Disclaimer: The growing guides included in this Bulletin are provided as a starting basis to cultivation, and local conditions in your area may require modification to these suggestions. The Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc. does not endorse or support any claims or opinions expressed by the authors of these articles, and are not responsible for the results of your cultivation practices.