

Next Meeting:

Monday 10th Feb. 2025, 8pm.

Hall open 7pm Benching by 7.50pm

Speaker

February Meeting

Paul from Neutrog® on their products for Orchids and Garden

Members, Partners and

Visitors - please ensure you sign our attendance book on entry to the meeting hall.





Cover Photo: The delicate pastel colouring, and striped labellum of the orchid featured on this month's cover is Encyclia radiata, courtesy - Robert Nicol

January Benching Photos: courtesy - Paul Sheaffe

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc. Bulletin - February 2025



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 M: 0407 458 784

Vice President: Mark Drury

Secretary: David Hicks E: davehicks@outlook.com.au M: 0431 799 230

Treasurer: Margaret Spring

Committee: Paul Sheaffe, Diane Phillips, Melissa Karayannis,

Jenny Sharpham, Sylvia Fitch, Frank Daniel.

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

Life Members: Murray Aldridge, Wal & Janette Chapman, Jan Robinson,

Col Brandon, Frank Daniel.

Bulletin | Website: David Hicks

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

In this Month's Bulletin:

My Experience with O-Ring Pot Holders – courtesy Mark Drury (page 10)

Next SSOS Grower's Group — Sat. 8th February 2025 (see details page 9)

Friendly Reminder – annual fees will be overdue after the February meeting!

(please ensure you are financial - see fees and payment details page 12)









Monthly Benching Results - January 2025

PLANT OF THE NIGHT

Winner Den. L D Red L. Watkins

OPEN JUDGES CHOICE HYBRID

Winner Den. L D Red L. Watkins

OPEN JUDGES CHOICE SPECIES

Winner C. tigrina J. Robinson

INTERMEDIATE JUDGES CHOICE

Winner Gongora galeata M. Drury

NOVICE JUDGES CHOICE

Winner Onc. Pacific Sunrise 'Hakalau' L. Strong

PRESIDENT'S CHOICE

Winner Ctsm. Mark's Red Hermosa x Mark's Jungle Girls R. Ettrick

Monthly Benching Results – January 2025

OPEN		
CLASS#2	AUSTRALIAN NATIVE HYBRIDS	
1st	Den. Jonathon's Glory 'Dark Joy'	R. Jackson
2nd	Den. Karani 'Dennis'	R. Jackson
CLASS#6	NOVELTY PAPHIOPEDILUM HYBRIDS	
1st	Paph. Lynleigh Koopowitz	J. Robinson
CLASS#8	LAELIINAE HYBRIDS over 110mm	
1st	Blc. Greenwich 'Elmhurst'	J. Robinson
2nd	Rlc. Wellesleyae	J. Ng
3rd	Blc. Mari's Glory 'H & R'	V. Petrovski
CLASS#9	LAELIINAE HYBRIDS 80mm up to & inc. 110mm	
1st	C. Penny Kuroda 'spots' x Orchidom Leopard 'svo'	V. Petrovski
CLASS#13	ONCIDIINAE HYBRIDS 60mm & under	
1st	Ons. Wildcat 'Bobcat'	J. Robinson
CLASS#14	ONCIDIINAE HYBRIDS over 60mm	
1st	Oip. Red Cambric	V. Petrovski
2nd	Bcd. Gilded Tower 'Mystic Maze'	V. Petrovski
3rd	Alcra. Snowblind 'sweet spots'	V. Petrovski
4th	Brassia Rex	J. Ng
CLASS#18	DENDROBIUM HYBRIDS EXOTIC	
1st	Den. L D Red	L. Watkins
2nd	Den. Gift by God	V. Petrovski
3rd	Den. Aridang Light Blue	V. Petrovski
4th	Den. Snow Boy	V. Petrovski









Monthly Benching Results – January 2025 cont'd

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CLASS#19	PHALAENOPSIS AND VANDACEOUS HYBRIDS	
1st	Vanda Pachara Delight	J. Ng
2nd	Phal. Erichsen Blanco 'MP 2386'	P. Sanaphay
3rd	Vanda Fuchs Delight x Dr Anek	V. Petrovski
CLASS#20	PLEUROTHALLIDINAE HYBRIDS	
1st	Masd. Tarni	W. & J. Chapman
CLASS#21	MISCELLANEOUS EXOTIC HYBRIDS	
1st	Ctsm. Louise Clarke 'Wonder Woman'	L. Watkins
2nd	Ctsm. Mark's Red Hermosa x Mark's Jungle Girls	R. Ettrick
3rd	Prom. Norman Gaunt x sibling	J. Robinson
4th	Ctsm. Elizabeth Wills	L. Watkins
CLASS#22	DENDROBIUM SPECIES EXOTIC	
1st	Den. sulawesiense	J. Robinson
CLASS#24	SPECIES ASIAN	
1st	Phal. sonderianum	M. Aldridge
2nd	Phal. cornu-cervi	M. Aldridge
3rd	Bulbo. electrinum var calvum	M. Aldridge
4th	Bulbo. sumatranum	M. Aldridge
CLASS#26	LAEIINAE SPECIES	
1st	C. tigrina	J. Robinson
2nd	L. founieri	M. Aldridge
CLASS#27	EXOTIC SPECIES	
1st	Ctsm. fimbriatum	L. Watkins
2nd	Prom. stapelioides	J. Robinson
3rd	Auguloa clowesii	J. Robinson
4th	Den. macrophyllum	V. Petrovski
CLASS#28	SEEDLING	
1st	Phrag. Andean Fire	H. Myers
2nd	Paph. Deception II	H. Myers
NOVICE		
CLASS#33	NOVICE MISCELLANEOUS HYBRIDS	
1st	Onc. Pacific Sunrise 'Hakalau'	L. Strong
2nd	Onc. 'unknown'	R. Bannell
CLASS#34	NOVICE SPECIES	
1st	Encyclea radiata	S. Fitch
INTERMEDIA	ATE .	
CLASS#38	INTERMEDIATE LAELIINAE HYBRIDS	
1st	Alcra. Yellow Star 'Golden Gambol'	M. Drury
CLASS#39	INTERMEDIATE MISCELLANEOUS HYBRIDS	
1st	Phal. 'unknown'	M. Drury
CLASS#40	INTERMEDIATE SPECIES	
1st	Gongora galeata	M. Drury









Plant Doctor @ Monthly Meetings

Last meeting, just prior to the supper break, we introduced a new segment to help promote discussion amongst members to assist growers with their questions regarding a particular orchid.

As the successful growing of orchids is a continual learning process, monthly meetings should also be a source of gaining or sharing of cultural information.

To ensure continuation of this initiative each month, we encourage you to bring along one of your particularly troublesome plants for assistance.

For the more experienced growers, we likewise, would appreciate hearing of your experience and expertise to assist the owner of that plant!



Rhonda had some questions about her specimen Den. gracilicaule









Monthly Benching Winners – January 2025

Open Judges Choice Hybrid + PON

exhibited by – L. Watkins



Den. L D Red

Open Judges Choice Species exhibited by - J. Robinson



Cat. tigrina



Intermediate Judges Choice

exhibited by - M. Drury

Gongora galeata

Novice Judges Choice exhibited by - L. Strong



Onc. Pacific Sunrise 'Hakalau'

President's Choice exhibited by - R. Ettrick



Ctsm. Mark's Red Hermosa x Mark's Jungle Girls

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc.

MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING

13th January 2025

President Rhonda extended a warm welcome and conveyed best wishes for the New Year to everyone, declaring the general meeting open at 8pm

A very warm welcome also to any visitors tonight? - Nil

APOLOGIES: David Brooks, Mavis Randle, Frank Daniel, Margaret Reed, Wendy Griffiths.

Before we commence the meeting tonight, we wish to honour the passing of two of our long serving life members:

VALE - ROBERT (BOB) MOAR

We were all extremely saddened to hear of the recent passing of Bob Moar on 4th January.

As you would have seen in the Bulletin, Bob joined the society in 1981 and was awarded life membership in 2015. He was Vice President for seven years and Show Marshall for eleven years. He willingly contributed to the society for nearly 45 years.

Bob's funeral was held today. It was pleasing to see so many members attend as a testament to Bob's popularity and regard held by our members.

The family has asked that we don't send flowers but that we make a donation to Calvary Hospital Palliative Care Unit at Kogarah instead as they were so passionate in caring for Bob.

VALE - AUDREY MARKS

We have been advised that our Life Member Audrey Marks, passed away on 20th July 2024.

Audrey and her husband Eric were awarded Life Membership in 1998 as they were true stalwarts of the Society. Audrey was a tireless and diligent worker for the Society and was Secretary and Public Officer for a long time. She was also a Champion African Violet grower.

Both Bob and the Marks, were the first at meetings and show set up, and the last to leave.

Rhonda asked that all members be upstanding for a Minutes silence in honour of both Bob, and Audrey.

TONIGHT'S ACTIVITY: After the break, we will be running a power point presentation of the winners of the Judges Choices for the Open Species and Hybrids from 2024.

We will then be asking for your popular vote, and the winners in each category will receive a prize certificate.

MINUTES:

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

Correspondence

- Dec/Jan. Society Bulletins from and to ESOS, IDOS, SOS, WSOS, EOC, NSOS, BOS, BMPDOS, Species Society NSW, plus the Dec. Orchid News from the OSNSW, January Newsletter from the Caringbah Garden Club.
- From the AOC Minutes from their AGM, Agenda for the Board of Management meeting in August. Also, a request for updated Affiliated Society contact details, for inclusion under the Affiliated Societies listing on the AOC website.
- Sutherland Society contact details updated and returned to the AOC as requested.
- Flyer from OAC with details of the speaker program at the Woolgoolga Conference.

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc.

MINUTES – *cont'd*

GENERAL MEETING

13th January 2025

GENERAL BUSINESS:

2025 MEMBERSHIP FEES:

Just a friendly reminder, if you are yet to pay your annual membership, fees,

they can be paid in cash, or by direct deposit to the Society's bank account. The fee structure and account details can be found in the Bulletin.

So, if anyone wishes to pay tonight, could you please see our Treasurer Margaret. They will need to be paid by the February meeting.

NEXT GROWER'S GROUP:

The next Grower's Group will be held on **Saturday 8**th **February** at the home of David Hicks – 548 The Boulevarde Sutherland, commencing 1pm.

Details will be included with the February Bulletin

The discussions will centre around your problem plants, but there will also be some discussion on growing Species, and on some examples of different types of orchid mounts, and how to mount them successfully.

We especially encourage our Novice growers to attend these sessions, so please come along with your problem plants, or with your ideas and successes to share!

Some goodies on a plate to share for afternoon tea would be much appreciated.

WINNERS 2024 ANNUAL POINT SCORE CLASSES:

Rhonda presented the certificates to the members who had been unable to attend the December meeting.

WINNER - 2024 VOLUNTEERS AWARD:

Rhonda presented the prize of an orchid to *Edwina Wain who had been unable to attend the December meeting*.

OSNSW AWARD: Rhonda presented Murray Aldridge with his OSNSW 'Award of Cultural Merit' for his amazing orchid - Maxillaria sanguinea 'Lyn'

AOC WOOLGOOLGA CONFERENCE SPEAKER PROGRAM:

No guided walks program

The speaker program will be held on 3 and 4 October with a conference dinner on 4th. The speakers include

- Dr Fred Clarke who has done pioneering work in Catasetum intergeneric hybrids
- Wenging Perner who had dedicated her life to the conservation of Chinese orchid species
- Chu Xuan Canh from Vietnam who may be talking on Paphiopedilums
- Ximena Portillo of Ecuador who may be talking on the conservation of Ecuadorian orchids
- Scott Barrie of Barrita Orchids who specialises in breeding oncidiums, cymbidiums and zygopetalums
- Chris Cobb of North Old will talk on Tropical Dendrobiums and their hybrids
- Dr Ashley Field from Uni of Qld will be speaking on Phalaenopsis rosenstromii
- David Banks a leading expert on Australian orchids and rare and unusual orchids.
- At the conference dinner the speaker will be Michael Coker who is an experienced speaker and passionate orchid grower.

If you would like to be sent the flyer, to please let us know.

AGM IN MARCH:

As Margaret and David will be vacating their positions, we need these positions to be filled.

The compilation of the newsletter does not form part of the role of Secretary and David wishes to retain this task.

The Secretary's role includes preparing agendas and minutes, managing the incoming and outgoing correspondence and membership register.

There are other duties but these are the main ones. **Please consider taking on a Committee role.**

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc.

MINUTES – cont'd

GENERAL MEETING

13th January 2025

SHIRE DANCE LESSONS INFORMATION:

Wendy, who manages the dance classes in the adjacent hall has asked if we would let our members know about their Learn to Dance Classes. If you are interested, we have copies of the program on the table.

ACTIVITIES / GUEST SPEAKERS FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS:

8th February 2025 - Paul from Neutrog on their orchid products

10th March 2025 – AGM plus Richie Dimon on orchids encountered in Borneo

14th April 2025 - Speaker TBA

12th May 2025 - Annual Auction Night

Tonight's Raffle Plants - David gave a brief overview

NEW MEETING ACTIVITY: ORCHID DOCTOR

General discussion on the issues with any plants brought in by members.

As there were no other plants offered up from members, Rhonda started up some discussion amongst members regarding the general culture and health of her specimen Den. gracilicaule.

TONIGHT'S ACTIVITY – We will now commence our Power Point presentation for your popular vote on the open monthly benching winners from 2024, species and hybrids.

You will be provided with a pen and separate voting forms for the two categories.

After each presentation, you will just need to circle one vote on the form, which will then be collected, and then repeat the process after the second presentation.

We have a prize certificate of \$20 for the winners of each category.

Congratulations to our Winners:

Hybrid: Cat. Caudebec 'Candy' Winner: Dimitrios Mitsios

Species: Cat. Tigrina leopoldii 'Syd' x 'Paul' **Winner** Lawrence Watkins

Rhonda presented Lawrence with his prize certificate, Dimitrios was not present tonight, so it will be carried over to the February meeting.

Rhonda also thanked Mark Drury for running the commentary on the PPT tonight.

MONTHLY PRIZE PRESENTATIONS:

Raffle Winners for January: *N. Woodcock, L. Strong, P. Davies, J. Ng, L. Watkins* **Name Badge Winner for January:** *Di Hannah (prize pick from the Raffle plants)*

IUDGES FOR IANUARY:

Rhonda thanked our Judging Panel for this evening:

Wal Chapman, Murray Aldridge, Jan Robinson, Richie Dimon,

Trainee - John Ng.

January Judges' Choice Awards:

PLANT OF THE NIGHT: Den. L D Red – *Lawrence Watkins*

JUDGES CHOICE OPEN HYBRID: Den. L D Red - Lawrence Watkins

JUDGES CHOICE OPEN SPECIES: Cat. tigrina – J. Robinson

JUDGES CHOICE INTERMEDIATE: Gongora galeata – *M. Drury* **JUDGES CHOICE NOVICE:** Onc. Pacific Sunrise 'Hakalau' – *L. Strong*

PRESIDENT'S CHOICE: Ctsm. Mark's Red Hermosa x Mark's Jungle Girls - R. Ettrick

CLOSING:

Before closing, Rhonda asked for a volunteer to sweep the floor.

Our thanks tonight to R. Dimon

Rhonda thanked everyone for their attendance tonight, and that we look forward to your company at our next meeting on 8^{th} February.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm.

1st SSOS Grower's Group for 2025



DATE: Saturday 8th February 2025

VENUE: David Hicks @ 548 The Boulevarde Sutherland

TIME: Commencing 1pm

TOPICS: Open Discussion on your Cultural Questions, Orchid Mounts, plus - we will be Dividing a Large Plant of Coel. fuliginosa (ovalis)

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

*If you wish to bring along some goodies on a plate to share at afternoon tea/coffee time, would be much appreciated.

Congratulations to Murray Aldridge on receiving an 'Award of Cultural Merit' from the OSNSW for his orchid:

Maxillaria sanguinea 'Lyn'





My Experience with O-Ring Pot Holders

courtesy - Mark Drury





Some examples of the wall pot hangers (left) and the long hook hangers (right)

A couple of weeks ago, I won a handful of small and medium sized O-ring pot holders in a raffle.

When I received these items (that at the time seemed of little use to me), I was thinking to myself and secretly sighing, "this could possibly be a waste of a good raffle ticket".

However, in reality, these pieces of metal were the start of a whole new world!

I had found a new world order at solving the age of old problem facing growers today, the issue of too many orchids and too limited space within your greenhouse and/or hothouse!

Consider the air above you, or the walls surrounding you or even extending the shelving staring right at you!

These O-ring pot holders are the loaves and fishes of today, a couple strategically placed holders can solve not only space (lack thereof), but even world peace! (At a local level at least).

No more looking at a blank wall/shade cloth/vacant space, now with the magic of O-ring pot holders strategically placed over that wall, that vacant space is now a vital new region for orchids to thrive and grow.

Covering that useless spot with a multiple of hanging pots filled with flowering orchids that had once been pushed into the background through sheer numbers of competing plants.

But there is a catch. Size of the plant/pot is the problem. These O-rings are excellent for the small and medium sized pots to hang, but I have found if you placed larger sized pots in O-rings upon the wall, the potential for instability is greater.

Thus, unstable pot hanging equals crashing to earth; equals damaged plants; equals broken flower spikes; equals despair and anger. A big no-no.

My humble suggestion is to utilise only the small to medium sized O-rings for your valuable seedlings that can be moved away from the larger orchids and therefore saving overcrowding and oversight with watering and fertilising.

When you utilise your greenhouse/shade house walls in conjunction with your benchtops, suddenly you are doubling the room for your orchids. Suddenly you have more space to buy more orchids! How good is that?

So next time you win a couple of O-rings at the raffle don't despair, but secretly rub your hands together and whisper to yourself "You little ripper!"

Flowering in January courtesy – Robert Nicol



Stan. ruckeri



Bulbo. echinolabium



Bulb. odoratissimum



Stanhopea jenischiana 'Jen' courtesy – Ian Ware



ORIGIN: Found in Panama, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru on the western slopes of the Andes in montane areas with a distinct dry season at elevations of 800 to 1500 meters.

(Ian advises it has a sweet 'Bubble - Gum' scent!)

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership Fees for 2025 are now due (by Feb.)

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

ANNUAL FEES:

Adult Single - \$20
Pensioner Single - \$15
Punior (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!!!



Local Orchid Spotting

Have you recently spotted one of our beautiful and unique Aust. native orchids in your local area or on a recent trip?

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

Many thanks - Lattor

Please forward to: davehicks@outlook.com.au



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

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."











Events for the Diary in 2025

Monday 10th February 2025 - SSOS General Meeting. Speaker - Paul from Neutrog speaking on their Products to suit Orchids and on products for all aspects of general gardening.

Monday 10th March 2025 - SSOS General Meeting plus AGM - Speaker - Richie Dimon on Terrestrial Orchids Encountered in Borneo

Monday 14th April 2025 - SSOS General Meeting - Speaker: TBC

Monday 12th May 2025 - SSOS General Meeting - *Annual Auction (details to be confirmed)*

Friday 23rd – **Saturday 25**th **May 2025** – **Orchids out West** – Philip Charley Pavilion Hawkesbury Showground (see flyer page 11)

June 2025 - SSOS Winter Show - (dates and details to be confirmed)



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 bring along your own mug!

Dear SSOS Members – we would really appreciate your **Articles** or 'Photos of Interest' 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: Any growing guides included in this Bulletin are provided as a starting basis and guide to general cultivation. Local conditions in your area may require modification to these suggestions. The Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc. does not endorse any commercially available product, or support any claims or opinions expressed by the authors of these articles, and are not responsible for the results of your cultivation practices.