



Next Meeting:

**Monday 14th
September, 8pm**

*Hall open 7pm
Benching by 7.50pm*

Guest Speaker For September

Jan Robinson
Thunias
'The Shire Way'

**Members, Partners and
Visitors** - please ensure
you sign our attendance
book on entry to the
meeting hall



Sutherland Shire Orchid Society



Website QR Link

August Meeting Photos
courtesy – Paul Sheaffe

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc.

Bulletin – September 2026



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: Jan Robinson

Vice President: Melissa Karayannis

Secretary: Richard Dimon Email: secretary@ssos.org.au

Treasurer: Michael Vitnell: Email: mikevitnell@gmail.com M: 0431 942 934

Committee: Paul Sheaffe | Margaret Spring | Robin Bannell
(Committee meets 1st Wed. monthly except January - Tradies Gynea @ 7.30pm)

Life Members: Murray Aldridge OAM | Wal & Janette Chapman | Jan Robinson
Col Brandon | Frank Daniel | George Birss

Public Officer: Michael Vitnell

Show Secretary | Membership: Margaret Spring

Show Marshal: Jan Robinson

Guest Speaker | Raffle Co-ordinator: Melissa Karayannis

Bulletin: David Hicks E: davehicks@outlook.com.au

Website: Paul Sheaffe E: Paul@paulsproductions.com

Bulletin 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:

SSOS Spring Show (see page 4)

Orchids Central (see flyer page 11)

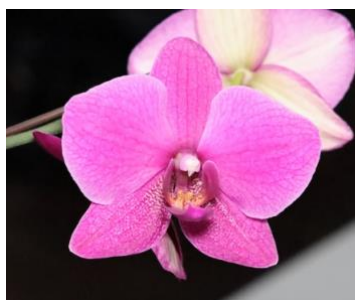
OSNSW Summer Orchid Festival (see flyer page 11)

Events and Shows for 2026 (page 12)

Cover Photo: Cym. Regal Fury 'Jupiter'
– exhibited in August by Michael Vitnell



August Benching



Monthly Benching Results – August 2026

PLANT OF THE NIGHT

Winner	Paph. chamberlainianum	H. Myers
OPEN JUDGES CHOICE HYBRID		
Winner	Cym. Midnight Passion '408'	D. Mitsios
OPEN JUDGES CHOICE SPECIES		
Winner	Paph. chamberlainianum	H. Myers
INTERMEDIATE JUDGES CHOICE		
Winner	Not Awarded	No Entries
NOVICE JUDGES CHOICE		
Winner	Cym. Regal Fury 'Jupiter'	M. Vitnell
PRESIDENT'S CHOICE		
Winner	Den. Brimbank Cosmic Jayden 'Godzilla'	R. Dimon

Monthly Benching Results – August 2026

OPEN

CLASS # 1	AUSTRALIAN NATIVE SPECIES	
1st	Dockrillia dolichophyllia	W. & J. Chapman
2nd	Dockrillia teretifolium	R. Jackson
3rd	Ptst. curta	D. Mitsios
CLASS # 2	AUSTRALIAN NATIVE HYBRIDS	
1st	Den. Hilda Poxon 'Joan Martin'	D. Mitsios
2nd	Den. Hilda Poxon	H. Myers
3rd	Den. Tropical Sunrise 'Beaming'	H. Myers
4th	Den. Lorikeet x Den. Delicatum	V. Petrovski
CLASS # 3	DOCKRILLIA HYBRIDS	
1st	Dockrillia Australian Sunblest	R. Jackson
2nd	Dockrillia Hunter Cote	R. Jackson
3rd	Den. Grumpy Veil 'Doc'	C. Brandon
4th	Den. Jungle Juice	R. Cawley
CLASS # 5	SPECIES PAPHIOPEDILUMS	
1st	Paph. chamberlainianum	H. Myers
2nd	Paph. venustum	V. Petrovski
3rd	Paph. spicerianum	V. Petrovski
CLASS # 6	NOVELTY PAPHIOPEDILUM HYBRIDS	
1st	Paph. Leeanum	M. S. Drury
2nd	Paph. Maudiae coloratum	W. & J. Chapman
3rd	Paph. Nitens	D. Mitsios
4th	Paph. gratrixianum	V. Petrovski
CLASS # 7	CLASSICAL PAPHIOPEDILUM HYBRIDS	
1st	Paph. Marion Fischer	M. S. Drury
2nd	Paph. Honey Gorse 'Downland'	R. Dimon
3rd	Paph. Maurice Butler x New Foundation	D. Mitsios
4th	Paph. Exception 'Gloria'	W. & J. Chapman

August Benching



Monthly Benching Results – August 2026 cont'd

OPEN

CLASS # 8	LAELIINAE HYBRIDS over 110mm	
1st	Rlc. Siam White - the best	P. Sanaphay
2nd	Rlc. Golf Green 'Hairy Pig'	M. Karayannis
3rd	C. Bardekin Dream	R. Dimon
CLASS # 10	LAELIINAE HYBRIDS up to & including 80mm	
1st	Cattlianthe Amaroo	R. Jackson
2nd	Cat, Dal's Good One 'Janelle'	D. Mitsios
CLASS # 12	NON-CLASSICAL LAELIINAE HYBRIDS	
1st	Rth. Free Spirit x Epi. Renee Marques	J. Costa
2nd	Blc. Copper Queen	J. Ng
CLASS # 13	ONCIDIINAE HYBRIDS 60mm & under	
1st	Onc. Twinkle 'Fragrance Fantasy'	V. Petrovski
2nd	Onc. Tsiku Marguerite 'Chian-Tzy Dragon'	V. Petrovski
3rd	Onc. Sharry Baby	D. Mitsios
4th	Onc. Sweet Sugar 'Dream'	D. Mitsios
CLASS # 14	ONCIDIINAE HYBRIDS over 60mm	
1st	Alcra. Marfitch 'Howards Dream'	D. Phillips
CLASS # 17	MINIATURE CYMBIDIUM HYBRIDS - under 60mm	
1st	Cym. Midnight Passion '408'	D. Mitsios
2nd	Cym. Memoria Marvin Gaye 'Royale'	V. Petrovski
3rd	Cym. Orkney 'Pink Heather'	W. & J. Chapman
4th	Cym. Mini Sacramento	W. & J. Chapman
CLASS # 18	DENDROBIUM HYBRIDS EXOTIC	
1st	Den. Excelsa	V. Petrovski
CLASS # 19	PHALAENOPSIS AND VANDACEOUS HYBRIDS	
1st	Phal. 'unknown'	R. Dimon
CLASS # 21	MISCELLANEOUS EXOTIC HYBRIDS	
1st	Coel. Janine Banks 'Snow White'	M. Karayannis
2nd	Fredclarkeava After Dark 'Svo'	J. Ng
3rd	Lyc. Shoalhaven 'Soft Pink'	D. Mitsios
4th	Coel. Janine Banks	R. Jackson
CLASS # 23	COELOGYNINAE SPECIES	
1st	Ddc. niveum 'yeowie'	R. Nicol
2nd	Ddc. glumaceum	W. & J. Chapman
3rd	Ddc. cobbianum	W. & J. Chapman
4th	Ddc. tenellum	R. Nicol
CLASS # 27	EXOTIC SPECIES	
1st	Bonatea speciosa	H. Myers
2nd	Rhyncholaelia digbyana	J. Ng
3rd	Barkeria whartonia	G. Hodder
4th	Sttenorthychos speciosum	R. Cawley
CLASS # 28	SEEDLING	
1st	Paph. Spicy Moon	V. Petrovski
2nd	Paph. Top Athlete x World Plus 'Dark Prince'	D. Mitsios
3rd	Den. Aussie Angel Bernie x Flinder Grant Garnet	R. Jackson
4th	Den. Aussie Angel Bernie x Flinder Grant Garnet	R. Jackson

August Benching



Monthly Benching Results – August 2026 cont'd

NOVICE

CLASS # 30 NOVICE CYMBIDIUM HYBRIDS

1st	Cym. Regal Fury 'Jupiter'	M. Vitnell
2nd	Cym. Winter Kiss 'Pink Lips'	M. Vitnell

CLASS # 33 NOVICE MISCELLANEOUS HYBRIDS

1st	Phal. 'unknown'	G. Towle
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INTERMEDIATE

No Entries

SPRING ORCHID SHOW

10AM-4PM FRI 11TH SEPT
10AM-3PM SAT 12TH SEPT

FREE ENTRY

WOOLLOOWARE SHORES
2-28 ALEXANDER AVE
TAREN POINT

ORCHID DISPLAYS
REPOTTING SERVICE
GROWING ADVICE
PLANT SALES
RAFFLE & CAFE

Sutherland Shire
Orchid Society
ssos.org.au

*Setting-up and Plant Booking in –
Thursday 10th September 2pm – 5pm*

**Show Volunteers* – please see Margaret on the Thursday if you wish
to check any available timeslots on the Roster*

Monthly Benching Winners – August 2026

Open Judges Choice Species + **PON**

exhibited by – Heath Myers



Paph. chamberlainianum

Open Judges Choice Hybrid

exhibited by – Dimitrios Mitsios



Cym. Midnight Passion '408'

Novice Judges Choice

exhibited by – Michael Vitnell



Cym. Regal Fury 'Jupiter'

President's Choice

exhibited by – Richie Dimon



Den. Brimbank Cosmic Jayden 'Godzilla'

A Selection from the many Beautiful Paphs benched in August



Our Guest Speaker in August

*Thomas Mesaglio on - **Western Australia Orchid Diversity***



Last meeting we really enjoyed the presentation from Thomas Mesaglio on the amazing variety and diversity of native orchids, mostly terrestrials, that inhabit quite defined regions in southern areas of Western Australia.

Accompanied by many beautiful PP slides, Thomas took us on a journey through the regions that he has travelled, photographed and studied. He has a PhD in Biodiversity Informatics UNSW, CSIRO, and Nat. Herbarium NSW.

We witnessed how many of these rely on a unique relationship with other flora, climate and geography of those regions, and specific nutrients in the local soils. Many do not occur anywhere else in Australia.

One orchid in the presentation, was a truly stunning and rarely seen orchid in the wild - **Thelymitra pulcherrima** - 'Northern Queen of Sheba'. (see photo above)

Thomas has a truly amazing knowledge of the orchids of this area, and we really appreciate his time to attend our meeting and share this through his presentation to our members.

Featured Species for September

Lepanthes caladictyon



Lepanthes caladictyon belongs to the Pleurothallid group of orchids, and is a miniature sized warm to cool growing epiphytic orchid, native to the humid cloud covered montane forests of Ecuador and Colombia.

It is commonly found on mossy branches at elevations ranging from 450 to 1,500 metres.

The unique single flower (8mm) resembling a female insect grows out of the leaf and stays open for about 4 days. The leaves have a beautiful 'net-patterned' feature of two shades of green on the upper surface, and red stripes on white underneath.

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc.

MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING

10th August 2026

The meeting was opened by Richie Dimon at 8:03 pm.

WELCOME

Richie welcomed members and visitors, including Marian Payne from the Menai Wildflower Group.

ADMIN

Apologies: David Brooks, Murray Aldridge, Ian Ware, John Hely, Russell Etterick, Mavis Randle, Christine Castle and Sylvia Fitch, and Maria Bootland.

The July minutes were accepted as an accurate record. Moved by Pam Davies, seconded by Paul Sheaffe. Carried.

New member: The committee accepted Daimin Japar of Narwee as a new member. Daimin grows Cymbidiums, Phalaenopsis, Oncidiums and Epidendrum radicans and will enter in the Novice class. Members were asked to make Daimin feel welcome.

FINANCE

- The Society's term deposit, matured on 6 August. The Treasurer arranged for it to be rolled over for another three months, subject to a satisfactory rate.
- The new Westpac payment setup has been trialled for member purchases and is working well.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Thanks to Robert Cawley and other members for setting up the tables for the meeting.

Virus Test Kits

- Orchid virus test kits remain available to members in packs of five for \$40. Several packs were sold at the July meeting and the electronic payment process has been working well.
- Each pack includes test instructions. Members with questions were asked to speak with Richie.

Spring Show Planning

The Spring Show will be held on Friday 11 and Saturday 12 September. Members were encouraged to begin preparing suitable flowering plants and sales plants.

- The committee has revised the show schedule and flyer, including several minor changes to the show classes. The final versions were circulated just prior to the meeting.
- The Orchid Place will continue to be acknowledged as a show sponsor in Society bulletins for upcoming shows.
- Plants purchased from the sales area should not be taken back into the show display area. Signage will be provided at the Spring Show.
- Members who can assist with setup, staffing, sales, repotting or promotion were asked to speak with the committee.
- Members were reminded that plants should be benched in a clean and presentable manner and be free of pests or disease.

Badge Draw Trial

- A trial was suggested of numbering attendance-book entries and using an online random-number generator for the name badge draw.

SSOS Cultural Commendation

An SSOS Cultural Award was presented to Dimitrios Mitsios for his specimen *Bulbophyllum Elizabeth Ann* "Buckleberry", benched in June. Congratulations to Dimi for the award.

Recent and Upcoming Orchid Shows

The National Orchid Extravaganza was held at Yagoona over the weekend and was hosted by the Cymbidium Club of Australia and the Paphiopedilum Society of NSW.

- **St Ives Orchid Fair:** Friday 14 to Sunday 16 August at the St Ives Fairground.
- **Revesby Workers Spring Show:** Saturday 5 September.
- **SSOS Spring Show:** Friday 11 and Saturday 12 September.

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc.

MINUTES – cont'd

GENERAL MEETING

10th August 2026

Bunnings Sponsorship and Upcoming Events

- Bunnings Kirrawee Spring Launch: Saturday 29 August. Members able to assist at the Society information are asked to contact the committee.
- Bunnings Caringbah Garden Corner: Monday 7 September. Additional volunteers would also be welcome.
- Sutherland Shire Bushcare Fair: Sunday 20 September. Paul and Rhonda have offered to assist, and additional volunteers are needed for the table.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Rhonda on receiving an AM at the latest OSNSW meeting for her plant Dockrillia Eric Olsen 'Cutie'.

SPEAKERS AND ACTIVITIES FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS

- August 2026: Thomas Mesaglio – The Wild (South)West: a taster of Western Australian orchid diversity.
- September 2026: Jan Robinson – Thunias, The Shire Way.
- October 2026: Activity to be confirmed.
- November 2026: Jan Robinson, Murray Alridge and David Brooks – Discussions on fertilising.
- December 2026: Christmas Party.

Richie outlined the raffle plants for the evening and started a discussion on growing orchids without using bark, particularly his experience using pumice.

PRESENTATION

Following supper, Thomas Mesaglio presented "The Wild (South)West: a taster of Western Australian orchid diversity". Thomas recently completed a PhD in Biodiversity Informatics at UNSW, CSIRO and the National Herbarium of NSW, Botanic Gardens of Sydney, Mount Annan. He is also an avid iNaturalist enthusiast, with more than 72,000 records!

Thanks Thomas, for a wonderful talk on the stunningly diverse flora of WA, including many of the unique WA terrestrial orchids he saw while partaking in several years of field work over there. Thomas also mentioned how surprisingly important and diverse roadside verges are over there. Well worth hiring a car and making lots of stops along the way!

MONTHLY PRIZE PRESENTATIONS

Richie presented the monthly prize certificates before the raffle draw and thanked the judging panel for the evening.

JUDGES' CHOICE AWARDS

- **Plant of the Night:** Paph. chamberlainianum – *Heath Myers*.
- **Judges Choice Open Hybrid:** Cym. Midnight Passion "408" – *Dimitrios Mitsios*
- **Judges Choice Open Species:** Paph. chamberlainianum – *Heath Myers*.
- **Judges Choice Intermediate:** N/A. (no entries)
- **Judges Choice Novice:** Cym. Regal Fury "Jupiter" – *Mike Vitnell*.
- **President's Choice:** Den. Brimbank Cosmic Jayden "Godzilla" – *Richie Dimon*

RAFFLE WINNERS

Margaret Spring, Joan Sutton, David Hicks, Rhonda Jackson, Dianne Phillips, Margaret Spring, Dianne Phillips, Pam Davies and Heath Myers.

Name Badge Draw: *Pheng Sanaphay.*

CLOSING

Members were thanked for their attendance.

Next meeting: Monday 14 September 2026.

Richie closed the meeting at 9:35 pm.



Australasian Native Orchid Society The WARRINGAH GROUP Inc.

50th Annual

Spring Show 2026

Saturday, 12th September 9 am - 4 pm

Sunday, 13th September 9 am - 3 pm

FORESTVILLE MEMORIAL HALL

Starkey Street, Forestville

ADMISSION \$5.00

Children under 18 years free

Native Orchid Species & Hybrids on Sale
All plants are checked for quality

Show Marshal
William B. Dobson
Phone: 0409 545 955

Ass. Show Marshal
Cary Polls
Phone: 0414 754 062

Bunnings Kirrawee Spring Launch Day

Saturday 29th August 2026, 10am -1pm

Our Society was again invited to participate with a promotional table at this popular annual event.

Our thanks to Margaret, Melissa, Jan and Paul who donated their time promoting the Society, providing the public with orchid cultural tips, and distributing flyers for the upcoming Spring Show.



Revesby Workers Australian Native Orchid Club

Proudly Presents

THE 19th ANNUAL SPRING ORCHID SHOW

SATURDAY 5th September 2026
9am to 2.30pm

**Come along to the
Revesby Workers
Club and see the
wonderful orchids on
display in the Atrium.**

BRETT STREET, REVESBY, NSW 2212

**Our experienced orchid
growers will be on hand to
offer advice and there will
also be a Sales Table so
you can take one home for
your own garden.**



Congratulations to Dimitrios Mitsios receiving an SSOS Cultural Award

*Presented at the August Meeting
for -*

Bulb. Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry'



*(Plant was exhibited at the
June Meeting)*



Orchids Central 2026
Orchid Displays and Sales

Club Condell Park
178 Eldridge Road, Bankstown

18 to 20 September 2026
Friday and Saturday 9:30am - 4:00pm
Sunday 9:30am - 2pm

Adults: \$10
Buses: \$8
Children under 15 Free

Vendors include:
AIM Orchids
Alicia's Orchids
Fong Ping Orchids
Kingfisher Orchid Nursery
Kings Nursery
Nicky's Slippers
Orchid Care Services
Orchids of Distinction
The Orchid Place
Red Fox Orchids
RoLin Orchids
Wirra Willa Orchids-
Queenplants & Orkid

For more information
Email orchids_central@mail.com
Facebook [Orchids Central](https://www.facebook.com/OrchidsCentral)
Instagram [@orchidscentral](https://www.instagram.com/orchidscentral)




**Summer
Orchid
Festival**

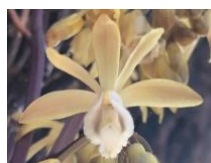
Dates
5-6 December, 2026
10am - 4pm Saturday
10am - 3pm Sunday

Admission
Adults: \$5 Children under 12: Free
Free parking available.

Location
Georges Hall Community Centre
188 Birdwood Road, Georges Hall

For more information
E: summerorchidfestival@gmail.com
W: www.summerorchidfestival.com.au

Presented by the Orchid Society of NSW

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

Please forward to:
davehicks@outlook.com.au

Dear SSOS Members



Do you have a lovely **specimen plant** in full flower that is always too large to transport to a meeting or show?

How about sending in a photo for the Bulletin to share it with other members?

And tell us something about its history?

Please forward to the Editor:

David Hicks E: davehicks@outlook.com.au
(before 28th of the month)

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc.

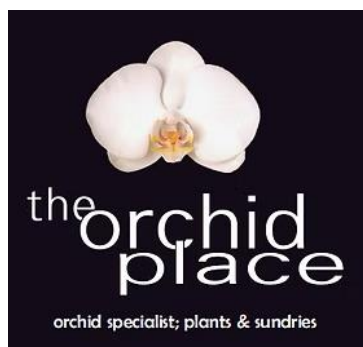
CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

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."

The complete document is available from our Website, or by clicking on the following **LINK:**
[SSOS Code of Conduct](#)

*Our appreciation
to the following for either
providing sponsorship,
support or association to
our Shows and Society
Activities for 2026*



3 Short St Heathcote



Kirrawee and Caringbah



*Woollooware Shores
Taren Point
for providing our
Show Venue*



Events and Shows for the Diary - 2026

Saturday 5th September 2026 – Revesby A.N.O.S. Native Spring Orchid Show (see flyer page 10)

Friday / Saturday 11th and 12th September 2026 - SSOS Spring Show
at Woollooware Shores, set-up Thursday 10th September from 2pm – 5pm

Monday 14th September 2026 – SSOS General Meeting.
Speaker: Jan Robinson on – Thunias 'The Shire Way'

Friday 18th – Sunday 20th September 2026 - Orchids Central - Club
Condell Park (see flyer page 11)

Monday 12th October 2026 – SSOS General Meeting. *Speaker TBA*

Monday 9th November 2026 – SSOS General Meeting. *Speakers:*
Murray, David B. and Jan on 'Fertilizing your Orchids'

Saturday 5th December, Sunday 6th December 2026 –
OSNSW Summer Orchid Festival (see flyer page 11)

Monday 14th December 2026 – SSOS General Meeting/ Christmas Meeting. *Giant Raffle, Annual Presentations and Christmas Eats!*
(More details closer to the meeting)



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.***

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.