Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc.

Bulletin – November 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 Gymea @ 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:

OSNSW Summer Orchid Festival (see flyer page 10)

Events and Shows for 2026 / 2027 (page 11)

Cover Photo: **Paph. Hsinying Carlos x Hsinying Leopard**
– exhibited in October by Lawrence Watkins

Next Meeting:

Monday 9th November, 8pm

Hall open 7pm
Benching by 7.50pm

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Guest Speakers For November

Jan, Murray and David Brooks
Discussion on Fertilising

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

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Instagram facebook

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society

Website QR Link

Cover and October Meeting Photos
courtesy – Paul Sheaffe

October Benching







Monthly Benching Results – October 2026

PLANT OF THE NIGHT

Winner	Angraecum sesquipedale	L. Watkins

OPEN JUDGES CHOICE HYBRID

Winner	Cym. Black Stump 'Come in Spinner'	D. Mitsios

OPEN JUDGES CHOICE SPECIES

Winner	Angraecum sesquipedale	L. Watkins

INTERMEDIATE JUDGES CHOICE

Winner	No Entries	

NOVICE JUDGES CHOICE

Winner	Phal. Indian Summer	P. Khor

PRESIDENT'S CHOICE

Winner	Tolumnia Robert's Delight'	H. Myers

Monthly Benching Results – October 2026

OPEN

CLASS # 1	**AUSTRALIAN NATIVE SPECIES**	
1st	Sarco. hartmannii 'Chloe'	C. Brandon
2nd	Sarco. hartmannii	J. Robinson
3rd	Sarco. hartmannii (Red Cloud x Sylvanvale) x Red Snow	J. Robinson
4th	Sarco. hartmannii 'Chloe'	J. Robinson
5th	Den. striolatum 'Ruffles'	C. Brandon
CLASS # 2	**AUSTRALIAN NATIVE HYBRIDS**	
1st	Den. Kathryn Banks 'Lee'	R. Jackson
CLASS # 3	**DOCKRILLIA HYBRIDS**	
1st	Den. Oliver Jack 'Gerard'	R. Jackson
2nd	Den. schoeninum	R. Cawley
CLASS # 4	**NATIVE SARCANTHINAE HYBRIDS**	
1st	Sarco. Roberta x Sweetheart	R. Dimon
2nd	Sarco. Kulnura Secure x Kulnura Zonke	D. Mitsios
3rd	Sarco. Bewitch 'Wow'	C. Brandon
4th	Sarco. Maria	J. Robinson
5th	Sarco. Snowheart x Duno Nicky's Twin 'Voodoo'	H. Myers
CLASS # 5	**SPECIES PAPHIOPEDILUMS**	
1st	Paph. tonsum var curtisfolium	L. Watkins
CLASS # 6	**NOVELTY PAPHIOPEDILUM HYBRIDS**	
1st	Paph. Vanguard	H. Myers
2nd	Paph. Hsinying Carlos x Hsingying Leopard	L. Watkins
3rd	Paph. Spiceranum	M.S. Drury
4th	Paph. Hsinying Carlos x Hsingying Leopard	M. Karayannis
CLASS # 7	**CLASSICAL PAPHIOPEDILUM HYBRIDS**	
1st	Paph. Masako's Delight	M.S. Drury

October Benching







Monthly Benching Results – October 2026 cont'd

OPEN

CLASS # 8	**LAELIINAE HYBRIDS over 110mm**	
1st	C. Mari's Song Glory ' H & R'	V. Petrovski
2nd	C. Intermedia v orlata 'Crown Fox'	D. Mitsios
3rd	Blc. Triu Thal	P. Sanaphay
CLASS # 9	**LAELIINAE HYBRIDS 80mm up to & inc. 110mm**	
1st	C. Crown Fox	M. Karayannis
CLASS # 10	**LAELIINAE HYBRIDS up to & including 80mm**	
1st	Ctt. Jewel Box 'Dark Water'	J. Chan
CLASS # 11	**CLUSTER LAELIINAE HYBRIDS**	
1st	Ctt. Trick or Treat	P. Sanaphay
2nd	Ctt. Little Hazel 'Red Jewel'	L. Watkins
3rd	Rth. Hsinying Orange Nugget 'Orange Queen'	V. Petrovski
4th	C. Tokyo Magic x Epi. Kyoguchi ' M. Sauno'	V. Petrovski
CLASS # 13	**ONCIDIINAE HYBRIDS 60mm & under**	
1st	Tolu. Robert's Delight	H. Myers
2nd	Oncid. Calico Gem	J. Robinson
3rd	Onc. Wildcat 'Garfield'	V. Petrovski
CLASS # 14	**ONCIDIINAE HYBRIDS over 60mm**	
1st	Onc. Memoria Val Houley	D. Mitsios
CLASS # 17	**MINIATURE CYMBIDIUM HYBRIDS - under 60mm**	
1st	Cym. Black Stump 'Come in Spinner'	D. Mitsios
2nd	Cym. devonianum	D. Mitsios
CLASS # 18	**DENDROBIUM HYBRIDS EXOTIC**	
1st	Den. Hamana Lake 'Dream'	V. Petrovski
2nd	Den. Ensae x Den. Rhodostictum	D. Mitsios
3rd	Den. Swallow 'Queen'	D. Mitsios
4th	Den. Sunny Eyes	J. Robinson
5th	Den. Love Memory 'Fizz'	R. Dimon
CLASS # 19	**PHALAENOPSIS AND VANDACEOUS HYBRIDS**	
1st	Vanda Somsri Glory Blue 'No. 2'	D. Mitsios
CLASS # 20	**PLEUROTHALLIDINAE HYBRIDS**	
1st	Masd. Hot Shot 'Solar Flare'	D. Mitsios
2nd	Masd. Bright Spice	V. Petrovski
CLASS # 21	**MISCELLANEOUS EXOTIC HYBRIDS**	
1st	Catasetum Portagee Star 'Rainbow'	L. Watkins
2nd	Lycaste Macama 'M.C.'	D. Mitsios
3rd	Zygo. Kudos Purity x Zygo. Kiwi Choice 'Tyabb'	G. Hodder
CLASS # 22	**DENDROBIUM SPECIES EXOTIC**	
1st	Den. polyanthum	L. Watkins
2nd	Den. andree millar	V. Petrovski
3rd	Den. wardianum	G. Hodder
CLASS # 23	**COELOGYNINAE SPECIES**	
1st	Coel. mooreana 'Brockhurst'	W. & J. Chapman
2nd	Den. cordatum	R. Nicol

October Benching









Monthly Benching Results – October 2026 cont'd

OPEN

CLASS # 24	**SPECIES ASIAN**	
1st	Bulb. trigonosepalum	M. Karayannis
2nd	Chiloslista shanica	R. Cawley
3rd	Bulb. flaviforum	W. & J. Chapman
CLASS # 26	**LAEIINAE SPECIES**	
1st	C. purpurata werkhaueserii	D. Mitsios
2nd	Epidendrum stamfordianum	L. Watkins
3rd	C. intermedia var coerulea	J. Robinson
CLASS # 27	**EXOTIC SPECIES**	
1st	Angraecum sesquipedale	L. Watkins
2nd	Maxillaria tenuifolia	J. Ng
3rd	Coelia triptera	W. & J. Chapman
CLASS # 28	**SEEDLING**	
1st	Sarco Duno Nicky's Twin 'Voodoo' x Kulnura Fireball 'Robin'	V. Petrovski
2nd	Paph. wenshanense	L. Watkins
3rd	Paph. glaucophyllum	L. Watkins

NOVICE

CLASS # 29	**NOVICE PAPHIOPEDILUMS HYBRIDS**	
1st	Paph. (Hsinying Ruby Webx Laser Light) x Paph. Saint Swithin	M. Spring
2nd	Paph. Susan Booth	M. Spring
3rd	Paph. 'unknown'	P. Khor
CLASS # 31	**NOVICE AUSTRALIAN SPECIES & HYBRIDS**	
1st	Den. Striolatum 'Granny Smith'	R. Bannell
CLASS # 33	**NOVICE MISCELLANEOUS HYBRIDS**	
1st	Phal. Indian Summer	P. Khor
2nd	Phal. ' unknown'	M. Randle
CLASS # 34	**NOVICE SPECIES**	
1st	Den. thrysiflorum	P. Khor

Sarcochilus were well represented at the October Meeting!



Judges Choice Winners – October 2026

Open Judges Choice Species + PON

exhibited by – Lawrence Watkins





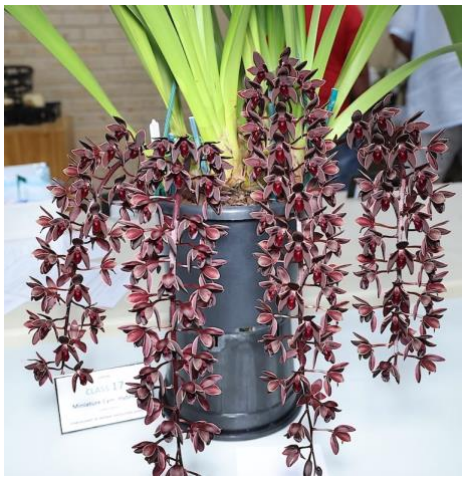


Angraecum sesquipedale

Open Judges Choice Hybrid

exhibited by – Dimitrios Mitsios







Cym. Black Stump 'Come in Spinner'

Novice Judges Choice

exhibited by – Phyllis Khor



Phal. Indian Summer

President's Choice

exhibited by – Heath Myers



Tol. Robert's Delight

PLEASE NOTE - ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2027 WILL BE DUE FROM DECEMBER

If any of your contact details have changed, please ensure you complete the **Membership Renewal Form attached with this Bulletin, and return to the Secretary at a meeting, or by email: secretary@ssos.org.au*

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES:

Adult Single - $25 **Adult Double** - $35
Pensioner Single - $20 **Pensioner Double** - $25
Junior (under 16 years) - $10
(If you wish your Monthly Bulletin Printed / Posted – $20 pa will apply in addition to the above)

Method of Payment - preferably by **Direct Deposit** *(or by cash, or EFTPOS at the meeting)*

****ALL DIRECT DEPOSITS TO OUR SOCIETY ACCOUNT BELOW:***

BSB: 032-112 **Account #:** 368041
Account Name: Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc.

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



Back in July we advised the fantastic news that our own Murray Aldridge had been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (an OAM) for his service to conservation, to orchid growing, and to the law.

We are pleased to be able to share this photo of Murray at the Investiture of the Award held recently at Government House, Sydney.

Alongside Murray is the Governor of NSW, Her Excellency The Honourable Margaret Beazley AC, KC

October Meeting Presentations:

Topic - Repotting Comparisons

Melissa on Bulbophyllums, Jan on Paphiopedilums and Richie on Aust. Native Dendrobiums





Last meeting members welcomed a presentation by three of our most experienced and successful growers - Jan, Melissa and Richie, as they shared advice on the various potting methods and other aspects being best options for the repotting and cultivation of Bulbophyllum, Paphs and Aust. Native Dendrobiums.

Jan (pictured above) spoke on Paphs - highlighting the importance of promoting strong root growth through good drainage using the correct size pots (not overpotting) also, in some cases, the benefits to some varieties by extending the length of pots (joining of 2 together) to encourage more vigorous root growth.

Richie spoke on Aust. Native Dendrobiums – including various types of mounts, and the use of shallower type pots with open mixes with good drainage.

Melissa (pictured above) spoke on Bulbophyllums – highlighting the success of using mounts for some varieties (especially incorporating the use of black tree fern), and further, how many thrive using coir in shallower type pots or baskets, or in suspended trays. Also, higher humidity generally being a factor for success.

Thank-you Jan, Melissa and Richie for sharing your vast knowledge and experiences on this vital subject.

Featured Orchid for November

Phaius Lady Ramona 'Looking@You'

Orchids and Photos - courtesy Mark Drury





Phaius Lady Ramona Harris 'Looking@You' is a stunning terrestrial orchid which prefers to be watered at the roots and needs to be kept evenly moist.

They are shade loving and prefers to be in low to medium light in a good moisture-retaining medium such as a cymbidium mix.

Lady Ramona produces upright flower spikes that can stretch up to 60-90cm tall. The flowers are lightly fragrant, and a lovely salmon colour with a broad red-coloured lip and white center.

Typically bloom late winter to spring.

(cultural info - courtesy Red Fox Orchids)

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc.

MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING

12th October 2026

WELCOME

The meeting was hosted by Margaret Spring and opened at 8:01 pm.

ADMIN

Apologies were received from Di Phillips, Sylvia Fitch, Maria Bootland, David Brooks, Judith Hamilton, David Hicks, Mike Vitnell, and Di Hannah.
The minutes of the September 2026 general meeting were accepted as an accurate record. Moved by Robert Nicol, seconded by Pam Davies. Carried.

FINANCE

The committee reviewed the Treasurer's Report and the proof of account balance as at 30 September 2026. The report was accepted by the committee. Mike was thanked for reconciling the Spring Show finances and distributing funds to members who sold plants on the Society's sales table.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Winter and Spring Show Update

The committee had discussed the Winter and Spring Shows at length at its recent meeting. Any changes for next year's shows will be communicated to members in advance. The Spring Show report and financial summary were included in the Bulletin. The Society made a profit while staging a successful display and promoting orchid growing, one of the aims set out in the Society's Constitution.

Sutherland Shire Bushcare Fair

Rhonda and Paul were thanked for staffing the Society's stall at the recent Sutherland Shire Bushcare Fair. Terry was also thanked for donating the proceeds from the sale of some of his plants to the Society. Some plants remained available on the Society's sales bench at the meeting.
Rhonda reported that Bushcare provided a tent and table this year. Members supplied orchids for display and sale. Although the plants were priced affordably, sales were difficult. The stall attracted considerable interest in the Society and many questions from visitors about orchid growing and plant problems. Rhonda also noted the variety of stalls and the interesting talks presented by the Bushcare group.

Society Website

Work is continuing on updates to the Society's website, including the gallery page. Members with suggestions were asked to contact Paul.

Monthly Meeting Benching Guidelines

The Society is preparing a short set of guidelines for benching plants at monthly meetings. Further details are expected to be provided at the November meeting. The guidelines will be published in the Bulletin, with printed copies available at meetings for members to refer to. They will also help ensure that members and judges have a shared understanding of how plants should be presented.

RWANOC Show

The Revesby Workers Australian Native Orchid Club held its Sarcochilus Orchid Show on the Saturday before the meeting. Jan Robinson was congratulated on winning Grand Champion, and Rhonda Jackson on winning Reserve Champion.

Membership Renewals

Membership renewals are due from the December meeting onwards. Members may pay by cash, card or direct bank transfer. The committee has approved a small increase. The new annual rates are:

- Single: $25
- Double: $35
- Pensioner single: $20
- Pensioner double: $25
- Junior: $10

Sutherland Shire Orchid Society Inc.

MINUTES – *(cont'd)*

GENERAL MEETING

12th October 2026

Membership Renewals *(cont'd)* - A reminder will be included in the next Bulletin. Members will be able to renew in person or online from December.

December Christmas Party

The December meeting will be the Society's end-of-year Christmas Party. Members are asked to bring a plate of food and an item for the giant raffle. Raffle items should preferably be orchid-related and something the donor would be happy to receive. Gifts should be approximately $15 in value, and raffle tickets will cost $1 each.

Orchid Central Show

Margaret reported that she won first prize in the raffle at Orchid Central, receiving a yellow-and-white Paphiopedilum. Di Phillips also won a raffle prize. Members were shown photographs from the show, which Richie had prepared

Margaret's Sprayer/Mister

Margaret discussed the sprayer/mister she has been using as the weather warms up and recommended it for members with smaller orchid collections.

ACTIVITIES AND SPEAKERS FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS

- **November 2026:** "Discussions on Fertilising', with Jan Robinson, Murray Alridge and David Brooks.
- **December 2026:** Christmas Party – including Annual Point Score Presentations
- **January 2027:** Members' Popular Vote from Open Class Judges Choice for 2026
- **February 2027:** Jane Wright: topic to be confirmed.
- **March 2027:** Jan Robinson on "Luscious Lycastes".

OSNSW SUMMER ORCHID FESTIVAL

The OSNSW Summer Orchid Festival will be held on 5-6 December at Georges Hall Community Centre, Georges Hall. The venue has been changed and is closer to the Society. Members were encouraged to consider exhibiting late-season flowering plants. The event will have free entry and a sales table, and volunteers may be required.

OCTOBER ACTIVITY

Jan, Mel and Richie presented a series of repotting comparisons regarding Bulbophyllum's, Aust. Native Dendrobium's and Paphiopedilums.

JUDGES' CHOICE AWARDS

The judging panel was thanked, particularly given the large number of plants benched during the spring flush.

- **Plant of the Night:** Angraecum sesquipedale – Lawrence Watkins.
- **Judges' Choice Open Hybrid:** Cymbidium Black Stump 'Come in Spinner' – Dimitrios Mitsios.
- **Judges' Choice Open Species:** Angraecum sesquipedale – Lawrence Watkins.
- **Judges' Choice Intermediate:** (No award as No Entries)
- **Judges' Choice Novice:** Phalaenopsis Indian Summer – Phyllis Khor.
- **President's Choice:** Tolumnia Robert's Delight – Heath Myers

MEMBER BADGE DRAW AND RAFFLE

Member Badge Draw Winner: Christine Castle.
Raffle Winners: Rhonda, Margaret, Jenny, John, John, Melissa, Russell and Paul.

CLOSING

Members were thanked for attending and reminded that the next meeting would be held on Monday the 9th November.

The meeting closed at 9:57 pm.

This terrific specimen of Den. striolata 'Ruffles'

exhibited at the October Meeting by Col Brandon







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

the orchid place
orchid specialist; plants & sundries

3 Short St Heathcote

BUNNINGS warehouse

Kirrawee and Caringbah

Anglicare

Woolooware Shores
Taren Point
for providing our Show Venue



Events and Shows for the Diary – 2026 / 2027

Monday 9th November 2026 – SSOS General Meeting. *Speakers: Jan, Murray, David Brooks – 'Discussion on Fertilising'*

Saturday 5th December, Sunday 6th December 2026 – OSNSW Summer Orchid Festival. Venue: Georges Hall Community Centre *(see flyer page 10)*

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

Monday 11th January 2027 – SSOS General Meeting. *Activity: Member's Popular Vote from OPEN CLASS Monthly Judges Choice 2026*

Monday 8th February 2027 – SSOS General Meeting. *Speaker – Jane Wright, President Canberra Orchid Society (Topic to be Advised)*

Monday 8th March 2027 – SSOS AGM and General Meeting. *Speaker – Jan Robinson on 'Luscious Lycastes'*



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.*

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