



# Australian Native Orchid Society - Macarthur Group

MARCH 2019

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**President:** Mr. W. Southwell (Ph. 46818589)

**Postal Address:-** 20 Colo Street,

**Secretary:** Mr. R. Morrison

COURIDIAH, 2171.

**Treasurer:** Mrs. C. Asquith (Ph. 46259874)

**Next Meeting: TUESDAY , 19th MARCH, 2019**

**Life Members:** Mr. J. Riley, M. T. Cooke, W. & M. Southwell and A. & C. Asquith. (J. English)

**Conservation Officer:** R. Hanman

*ANOS Macathur Group disclaims any responsibility for any*

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**Venue: BIRRAWA HALL, FITZPATRICK ROAD, Mt. ANNAN**

**Doors open 7.15pm, benching closes 7.30pm, meeting starts 7.30pm**

Hi to All

Congratulations to Margaret for plant of the night and popular choice at the last meeting.

The sub-committee made its recommendations at the last meeting, it means we can't be quite as generous as we were but the club can continue to grow and become stronger, now that the finances are in order. The members voted to adopt these measures and the members are commended for doing so. The club was heading for a very uncertain financial future but the members have corrected this.

The first show of the season is at Rosemeadow on the 11th May, set up 7.00am, judging to start at 9.00am.

Wally

**Orchid Supplies will be presenting on the night – George and Mike – catalogues sent  
By email (2 Pages) – pre ordering can be made by emailing George / Mike directly.**

Vale David Gynn.. David of Sequoia Cymbdiums sadly passed away last week. This notice is placed to inform those who knew him.

**General Meeting – 19 February 2019 8.00 pm**

**Minutes of Meeting**

The Chair – Wally welcomed everyone to the February meeting and made a special welcome – Brian Birch past member on his return and Jagath Dheerasekara attending for his first time.

**Apologies:** Marg Yabsley

**Acceptance of Previous Minutes:**

Moved: Gordon Bush

Seconded: Graeme Morrison

**Carried**

**Business Arising:**

1. Minutes indicated the December minutes were unavailable – should have been November meeting minutes.
2. Requested that the address change on Newsletter.
3. Resolved that meeting would not start before 8pm or bench judge arrival – whichever came first.

**Correspondence:** Nil

**Treasurer's Report:** Income - \$394/ Expenditure - \$466 - Balance - \$3,376.41

Moved: Carol Asquith

Seconded: Terry Cooke

**Carried**

**General Business**

As results over concerns for budgetary restraint the following recommendations were presented by a sub committee comprising Wally Southwell, Don Roberts, Carol Asquith, Ross Morrison.

**Savings**

**Membership Fees.**

Increase membership fees from \$10 to \$15 (\$20 family rate)

29 members (6 are life members) @ \$5 -- \$145

**Show Judges Fee**

Maximum payout per show of \$100 – 5 Judges at \$20 -- \$150

**Show Sashes**

Change sash design and size -- \$230

**Annual Point Score Prizemoney**

Private sponsorship of \$200 to be sourced to cover prizemoney -- \$200

**NPWLS License**

Paid for 5 years in advance -- \$100

**Redistribution of Show Prizemoney**

Grand Champion and Reserve Champion will only receive this money and not Champions money as well. Champions reduced from \$20 to \$15 -- \$195

Membership Badges – responsibility of member -- \$20

**TOTAL SAVINGS \$1,040**

**Other comments and additional suggestions**

- Investigate Macarthur ANOS becoming a club within a licensed club to save on meeting venue hire and gain grants / sponsorship
- Attract new members – create an information pack with plant sales at Shows
- See sponsorship and local government grants
- New members to buy their own badges
- Members to donate additional raffle plants to attract greater sales

Active discussion around sash colours, raffle plants, membership badges, etc

Moved: Ross Morrison

Seconded: Don Roberts

**Carried**

- A MANOS Club Membership pamphlet will be developed to use at Club Show sales table. A draft will be developed for the April meeting.
- New membership badges will be donated by Graeme Morrison (for the time being).
- Club members must nominate / register to be part of MANOS Club ‘Growing Competitions’. Cost per registration will be \$10 and multiple registrations per member are permitted. A new MANOS Growing Competition will begin at the April meeting. Nominations will be called for in the March Newsletter. DUNO investigated for plants.

**2019 MANOS Growing Competition**  
**Registrations Open till 15 April**  
**Advise Secretary at meeting or**  
**0413314595 or**  
**[ross.morrison@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:ross.morrison@det.nsw.edu.au)**  
**\$10 per Registration**  
**(multiple registrations permitted)**  
**Prize Money - \$30 first flowerer.**

- **Autumn Show – 11 May at Rosemeadow Market Town**

**Further General Business**

- Phil Griffiths advised that he will be visiting Graeme Krake and Brogo Orchid nursery. Members were encouraged to advise Phil if they wanted him to purchase any orchids especially terrestrials.
- Robert Moon advised entries for the orchid section in the 2019 Royal Agricultural Society close on 13 March – cost \$35.

**Raffles** - Brian Birch, Jagath Dheeraseskara, Graeme Morrison, Mike Morris

**Meeting Closed at 9.15 pm**

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Something a little different....From OSCOV Website... 2008 (both articles)

## KEEPING THE JUDGES HONEST by Brian Milligan

Judges win many prizes at society shows, which is no surprise considering that they were originally chosen (at least five years previously) for training as judges on the basis of their orchid knowledge and cultural skills. Unfortunately a few society members attribute judges' successes to the wrongly perceived belief that judges are able to judge their own plants. This is not true, and strict procedures are enforced to ensure that judges cannot influence the results of any show classes in which they exhibit.

Ideally, judges should not judge at shows in which they exhibit. But consider how impractical this would be. Think of the giant OSCOV show held at Collectors' Corner each August and what would happen if thirty or more major exhibitors were obliged to withdraw because they help judge the show. Judges also make a significant contribution to the orchids displayed at many society shows. While it would be preferable for them to then judge elsewhere, this is usually not possible – there is just not the time to build a display at one's home society and then travel to another show for judging (not surprisingly, societies plan their show dates so that there is no competing show nearby). And despite the fact that OSCOV now has 44 fully accredited judges, we still have difficulty in providing enough judges on those weekends in spring when up to seven societies have been known to hold their shows simultaneously. There is no way that OSCOV could afford to give its judges a spring holiday!

We therefore have to accept the fact that some judges will have to officiate at shows in which they exhibit. To ensure fair judging, the leader of the judging team will therefore first ask all judges, associates and students if they are exhibitors. Fully accredited judges (who exhibit in the Open Section) will usually be asked to judge the other sections (Intermediate, Advanced Novice or Novice). But they may also need to judge Open Section classes, usually those in which they have no entries. Should they encounter a class in which they do have entries, they must inform their fellow judges and stand well back while those particular classes are judged; in no event must they identify their orchids to the other judges and they would be severely reprimanded if they were ever to do so. So, if you've ever wondered why one or more of the judges are "loafing" at the other end of the hall during judging, it's because they have entries in the particular class being judged.

The same thing applies when the show champions are being chosen from the various class winners towards the end of the show. At this stage the major class winning orchids are usually benched together in a well-lit situation for close comparison and the Grand Champion and Reserve Champion orchids chosen by ballot of all the fully accredited judges present (as a training exercise the student and associate judges sometimes are asked to make first choice but their decision is not necessarily the final one). All judges with any involvement in the orchids under consideration must withdraw until their orchids are eliminated. Ownership is just one form of involvement. For example if a judge is the breeder of a particular hybrid or it is owned by a family member, then he or she cannot participate in judging and must withdraw.

Orchid judging is not an exact science. It's the exception, rather than the norm, for a Grand Champion orchid to be chosen unanimously by all the judges present. Sometimes, there's a split decision and the team leader is needed to cast his or her deciding vote. Don't get the idea that if your orchid is Grand Champion of a closely contested show one week, it must repeat that feat the following week, given a different set of judges and a fresh lot of orchids. Orchid showing (and judging) is meant to be fun, so try not to take the results too seriously. Count your blessings if you win and hope for better luck next time if you don't.

**Vale Mr. Brian Milligan.** Mr Milligan's passing was noted in Victoria recently. He was involved with orchids for many years and he wrote many knowledgeable articles for Orchid Societies Council of Victoria.

### February Benching Results 2019

Benching Results Class	Place	Plant Name	Owner
<b>Dendrobium species</b>	1	Dendrobium wassellii	Don Roberts
	2	Dendrobium toressae	Ross Morrison
<b>Dendrobium hybrid</b>	1	Dendrobium Pinterry	Ross Morrison
<b>Sarcanthinae species</b>	1	Sarc. cecilliae	Margaret and Wally Southwell
	2	Sarc. ericochilus	Greg Steenbeeke
<b>Sarcanthinae hybrid</b>	1	Sarc. Rivendene x Pl. tridentate	Don Roberts
<b>Australian Species Other</b>	1	Cym. maddidum	Margaret and Wally Southwell
	2	Lyp. coelogyoides	Ross Morrison
<b>Australian Hybrid Other</b>	1	Cym. Little Black Sambo	Margaret and Wally Southwell
	2	Cym. Little Black Sambo	Margaret and Wally Southwell
<b>Terrestrial Evergreen</b>	1	Crypto. erecta	Ross Morrison
	2	Crypto. erecta	Ross Morrison
<b>Terrestrial Species Other</b>	1	Denia ophrydis	Greg Steenbeeke
<b>Seedling</b>	1	Sarc. harticalcar	Ian Lawson
<b>Judge's Choice</b>		Cym. maddidum	Margaret and Wally Southwell
<b>Popular Choice</b>		Cym. maddidum	Margaret and Wally Southwell

**Raffles** - Ross Morrison, Mary-Anne Warner, Jim Cootes.

**Meeting Closed at 8.45 pm**

Our AGM is due in July...please assist our Treasurer by paying your fees promptly...

Please note: At next meeting, Phil Griffiths will have a few tubes of sarc. Crosses, a couple of community pots of Sarc. Crosses, plus a few bits and pieces including one or two pots of tubers... from his sojourn down south.

## AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHIDS IN WINTER by Jim Doney

What is different during winter that will affect the growth of Australian native orchids?

Light diminishes in strength  
Plants dry out more slowly after watering and  
Plants grow more slowly

What do we need to do to compensate for these changes?

Increase light levels by removing any shading  
Extend the interval between watering  
Reduce the application of fertilisers

What signs can we expect to detect in happy plants?

Good white roots  
Nice solid leafy growths and  
Glossy leaves

If you are happy with the growth of your plants, continue with your cultural program – don't be persuaded to adopt the procedures of other growers. On the other hand, if you're dissatisfied with the progress of your plants, try some alternatives. Should you decide to try some new ideas, carry them out on a small scale to see if they work before applying them to your whole collection. Observe your plants closely and try to identify any problems.

Conditions are still good (in April) for re-potting. Make sure that you use a pot of appropriate dimensions for the size of the root mass – DO NOT over-pot. Depending on your location and your watering habits, use a potting mix that drains adequately but doesn't dry out too rapidly. If your plants have rotten roots, determine the cause and take remedial action. Remove all rotten roots and any growths without leaves or roots to promote new growth.

Different plants need different positions. For example, I find that *Dendrobium Tweed* and *D. Red River* grow better when their pots are hung low down than when hung high. On the other hand, *Sarcochilus ceciliae* and *S. hartmannii* need higher light levels than *S. fitzgeraldii* and most other *sarcochilus* species and hybrids. In my experience, some orchids, such as *Sarcochilus australis*, *Rhinerrhiza divitiflora* and *Peristerchilus Olive Grace*, need to be kept drier than others.

Humidity, aeration, air movement and good light are vital for good culture. What can we do to ensure that these factors are satisfactory?

**Humidity.** Ensure that you have a layer of water-retentive medium, such as gravel or scoria, on the floor below your benches to hold moisture and provide humid air around your plants.

**Aeration.** Ensure that the composition of your potting mix allows for pockets of air between the roots and the particles of mix.

**Light.** Make sure that no trees or buildings block the light falling upon your plants, especially from the north and east.

Air movement, either natural or generated by electric fans, is vital to maintain healthy plants. Improvements in this area will help to reduce the incidence of scale and spider mite.

Watering in the morning on warm or windy days ensures that the foliage dries by nightfall, thus helping to minimise fungal infections.

Pests. Snails, slugs and grubs are the main pests during winter. Use carbaryl-based sprays for grubs and caterpillars, and Baysol® or other pellets\* for slugs and snails.

\* WARNING : Most snail baits are poisonous to pets.

GOOD GROWING..