



Australian Native Orchid Society - Macarthur Group

JUNE 2024

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

Postal Address:- 20 Colo Street,

Vice-President Mr. Kyle Hall

COURIDJAH. 2171

Secretary: Mr. R. Morrison

Treasurer: Mrs. C. Asquith (Ph. 0499 765222)

Next Meeting: 18th JUNE, 2024

Life Members: W. & M. Southwell, A. & C. Asquith & R. Morrison, M. Yabsley.

Conservation Officer: *ANOS Macathur Group disclaims any responsibility for any losses which may be attributed to the use or misuse of any materials published in this newsletter*

Venue: BIRRAWA HALL

Should you wish to pay into our account for your fees

FITZPATRICK ROAD

BSB 062517 A/C 00909929

Mt. ANNAN.

Doors open 7.00pm, benching closes 7.30pm, meeting starts 7.30pm

Membership renewal due JULY.

Hi to All

A big thank you to Jim Cootes for his wonderful presentation of the International Orchid Conference in Taiwan. The magnificent orchid displays and the huge display of orchids were highlighted by the photos gives just a glimpse of how huge this show was.

Congratulations to Mike Harrison for plant of the night and popular choice, well done.

The July meeting will be our Annual General Meeting and the election of the committee.

Annual fees are now due.

Good growing
Wally

.General Meeting – 20 May 2024 7.30 pm

Minutes of Meeting

The President welcomed everyone to the May meeting.

Attendance: Members: as per sign on book:

Acceptance of Previous Minutes

Moved: Carolyn Wright

Seconded: Gordon Bush Carried

Business Arising: Nil

Correspondence

Central Coast and Newcastle ANOS Newsletter

AOF Annual Newsletter

Gardens NSW CoC / Insurance

SOS / NPWS – Rhizanthella slateri
Camden Council Grants delay / Acquittal / CoC

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer highlighted income received, accounts requiring payments and the existing closing balance
Moved: Carol Asquith Seconded: Kyle Hall Carried.

General Business

- The President presented Orchid Show sashes and prize monies.
- Show sales money was distributed. as presented by the Secretary – thank you were made to all exhibitors and member helpers on the day.
- Campbelltown Orchid Society President Wendy E offered seats to members to attend the Mingara Orchid Extravaganza.
- Discussion was had regarding the addition of a non judged 'Cultural Display Section' at Autumn Shows.

Motion: A Cultural Display Section be added to Autumn Shows

Justin L reported that Down Under Native Orchids had signed up to be a sponsor of Macarthur ANOS moving forward.

- Monthly Meeting raffles will increase to offer 6 plants.
- It was with great sadness the meeting was informed of the recent passing of Alan Stephenson – who had been a great friend of Macarthur ANOS.
- Clubs NSW Grants - discussion were had on possible grant request ideas – Orchid Propagation Project and Introductory Orchid Growing packs were suggested.

2024 Show Dates

Spring Show 14 September
Late Spring and Sarcochilus Show 19 October

Guest Speaker Presentation: Jim Cootes – International Orchid Conference – Taiwan

Jim provided a wonderfully informative presentation highlighting the array of orchids and displays at the Taiwan Orchid Growing Support Session

- Crickets in the Greenhouse – how do you get rid of them – a good discussion was had on the best pesticides to use.

Benching Discussion

Selected plants:

Oberonia palmicola Justin Lee

Pterostylis rependa Mike Harrison

Dendrobium Avril's Gold Carol Asquith

Dendrobium tetragonum Mike Harrison

Raffle Winners Peter B, Marg S, Justin L, Phil G

Monthly Benching Results

Benching Class	Place	Plant Name	Owner
Dendrobium species	1	Dendrobium tetragonum	Mike Harrison
	2	Dendrobium lichenastrum	Mike Harrison
Dendrobium hybrid	1	Dendrobium Glenn Star 'Yondi Giant	Mike Harrison
	2	Den. Anne's Rainbow Surprise	Justin Lee
Sarcanthinae Species	1	Sarcophilus hirticalcar	Justin Lee
Bulbophyllum Species	1	Bulbophyllum bowkettiae	Mike Harrison
	2	Bulbophyllum shepherdii	Ross Morrison
Rhizobium Hybrid	1	Dockrillia Virginia Jupp	Mike Harrison
	2	Dockrillia nugentii x Tweetas	Ian Lawson
Australian species other	1	Cadestia Taylorii	Mike Harrison
	2	Cestichis swensonii	Mike Harrison
Pterostylis Species	1	Pterostylis ophioglossa	Ross Morrison
	2	Pterostylis hildae	Ross Morrison
Australasian Species	1	Pterostylis rependa	Mike Harrison
	2	Mediocalcar decoratum	Mike Harrison
Australasian Hybrid	1	Den. Mem. Bill Richards Marion x Adumsri	Wendy Estall
	2	Dendrobium XL	Wendy Estall
Growing Competition	1		Carol Asquith

Judges's Choice Pterostylis rependa Mike Harrison

Popular Choice Pterostylis rependa Mike Harrison

A big thank you to Jim Cootes for judging and well done to exhibitors .

June Meeting – Guest Speaker – Michael Georgeson - ACE Ohlsson Produce Macarthur

Meeting Closed at 9.30 pm

I PRINT THE FOLLOWING AS I SHOULD HAVE INCLUDED IT LAST MONTH

MACARTHUR ANOS: CONSERVATION PROJECTS UPDATE – MAY 2024 Apart from the cultivation of native orchid species and hybrids, Macarthur ANOS is currently participating in 4 Conservation Projects

Native Orchids of Macarthur An ongoing survey of orchid populations in the Macarthur area has observed 109 orchid species since 2021. We are trying to recorded the biodiversity of native orchid populations across the Region.

- Observations can be recorded using one of the following methods:
- Email photos to Macarthuranos@gmail.com
- Posting of photos on the Macarthur ANOS Group Fb Page
- Posting of photos within the iNaturalist App – a project within the App named Macarthur Region Orchid Search isolates all observations across the region.

The other three projects fall within the Federal and NSW Governments – **Save our Species Strategy**. This strategy aims to secure as many threatened species and ecological communities as possible. This conservation strategy aims to secure the species in the long term.

- **SOS – Sydney Plains Greenhood - *Pterostylis saxicola*** Macarthur ANOS members are currently reviewing existing populations and searching for new colonies. Currently the plant numbers are above average for this season. Ongoing discussions and site surveys with the Dept. of Environment and Heritage **officer in charge** are occurring.
- **SOS – Illawarra Greenhoods – *Pterostylis gibbosa*** Macarthur ANOS members are growing this species in cultivation. The original plant was obtained under license in 1999. DNA samples have been collected and awaiting processing. Once completed it is hoped wild pollen can be collected to strengthen the incultivation plants. Seed collection will occur in November after artificial pollinisation occurs in October. It is hoped translocation of plants back into the wild can occur in the future. A Project meeting with the Dept. of Environment and Heritage **officer in charge** is scheduled to occur soon.
- **SOS – Eastern Australian Underground Orchid – *Rhizethella slateri*** A recent find by Macarthur ANOS members of this species in Macarthur has meant a project partnership. A site inspection with the Dept. of Climate Change Energy the Environment and Water **officer in charge** will occur in mid-June. DNA sampling will occur soon to see if it may be a different and new species within this genus.

THE Mystery of *Sarcochilus hirticalcar* NEVILLE ROPER JULY 2008

Sarcochilus hirticalcar, the 'Harlequin Orchid' is a tropical species which according to most sources is found in the McIlwraith Ranges of far North Queensland. It may seem that it only recently began to contribute its genes into the rapidly expanding list of hybrids with the appearance of grexes such as Sarco. Velvet and Sarco. Nicky and, more recently, their offspring. Surprisingly this impression is very wrong as *Sarco. hirticalcar* was used as a parent in one of the early hybrids when Noel Jupp registered Sarco, Riverdene in 1976.

The mystery to the writer is why the massive interval in the use of this most interesting species? One could be forgiven for thinking that it was only recently discovered but it was actually found in 1966 by Malcolm Brown.

As a parent it seems to provide some very desirable traits

- It extends the flowering season into summer and seems to encourage its offspring to produce several flushes of blooms throughout the year. My larger plants of Sarco. Velvet are rarely without some flowers.
- Its progeny have excellent flower substance with very thick, long lasting flowers that generally resist reflexing.

- It not only contributes a variety of colours (green, yellow, red) to its offspring but allows or even enhances the colour inheritance from the other parent. A case in point would be Sarco. Nicky where Sarco. hirticalcar has been paired with Sarco. fitzgeraldii to produce a grex of predominantly red flowers.

- When combined with a partner having full shaped flowers such as Sarco hartmannii the progeny mostly adopt the improved shape(as with Sarco. Riverdene) of the other parent rather than the sparse form of sarco. hirticalcar.

So once again it is asked "Why was Sarco. hirticalcar ignored for so long by hybridists?" Was it because Noel Jupp had the only plant in cultivation until recently (unlikely)? Was it because its progressive flowering habit was deemed to be a liability (note that breeders were using Sarco. ceciliae another noted progressive flowerer during this time)? Was it because it was difficult to grow and died out in collections (seems to be widely grown today) or was it because its offspring were difficult to cultivate (could be as some are a bit 'slow' although Sarco. Riverdene 'Holly' seems to have been around for ages but then again most selfings of this clone available over the years from DUNO have been slow growers at best).

Whatever the reason for the barren period in the use of Sarco. hirticalcar as a parent and even its first hybrid, Sarco. Riverdene, it has certainly been overcome in recent years with hybridists having produced 39 progeny as at mid 2008. The most notable of these would include the following Sarcochilus hybrids; Riverdene. Topaz, Velvet, Nicky, Cherry Cheer, Elise, Bessie and Duno Nicky's Twin.

If the idea of year -round flowers of great substance in an interesting array of colours is at all appealing then Sarcochilus hirticalcar and its extended family should never be ignored for so long again.

(From Sutherland Shire Orchid Society's website),

Good Growing!!