



Australian Native Orchid Society - Macarthur Group



AUGUST 2022

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

Postal Address:- 20 Colo Street,

Secretary: Mr. R. Morrison

COURIDJAH. 2171

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

Next Meeting: 16th AUGUST, 2022

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

Conservation Officer:

ANOS Macathur Group disclaims any responsibility for losses

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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 7.55pm, meeting starts 8pm

Hi to All

A big thank you to Mike Harrison for his very informative talk on some of the benched plants.

Congratulations to Kyle for plant of the night and Ross for popular choice.

At this meeting, Bob Bishop is bringing bags of bark, charcoal and perlite. If you need to order more product from him, give him a ring on 0413 702 335 and he will bring it with him. Bob is also going to give a talk at the meeting.

The September show will be on before the meeting, so there will be sheets and stickers available this month for the native orchid sales.

The prospect of having all three shows this year is looking very positive. This is great after 2 years of corona virus shutdowns.

Good Growing

Wally

VALE Bill Bradley

Bill and Clover Bradley joined our society a few years ago. They lived in Hornsby area and didn't attend our monthly meetings.. They did however attend our shows. The quality of their plants showed in their results. Bill was disabled ably supported by Clover. Those members who got to know Bill found him to be a pleasant man and a good member of our society. Bill passed away Tuesday 19th July.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Clover and the family.

Minutes of Meeting – 19 July 2022 – AGM and General Opened at 7.55pm

The Chair – welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting and General meeting. The Chair also highlighted the importance of Macarthur ANOS and the need for us to maintain the group ethos of friendship and support – attendance is fantastic. Wally also welcomed Eamonn Culhane as a visitor.

2022 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Wally and Margaret Southwell, Tony and Carol Asquith, Graeme and Ross Morrison, Gordon Bush, Marj Yabsley, Mike Morris, Mike Harrison, Jim Cootes, Peter Brown, Robert Moon, Brian Birch, Noel Bates, Wendy Estall, Kyle Hall, Maureen Gillett, Greg Steenbeeke, Phil Griffiths, Col Long.

Attendance via Zoom: Nil

Visitor: Eamonn Culhane

Apologies: Sandra Crosby, Tony Costa, Ian Lawson, Jagath Dheersekara, MaryAnne Warner.

Acceptance of Previous Minutes:

Motion: The 2021 November AGM minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Gordon Bush Seconded: Graeme Morrison Carried

Business Arising from 2021 AGM Minutes: Nil

Correspondence Pertaining to AGM: Nil

President's Report:

Wally thanked the Committee and all members for their support at monthly meetings and at the Autumn in Show and especially highlighted Mike Harrison and Ross Morrison for their individual commitment to organisations activities.

Secretary's Report:

Ross thanked members for their ongoing participation in club activities and especially thanked members who had contributed as presenters at monthly meetings, highlighting the expertise of Mike Harrison, Jim Cootes and Greg Steenbeeke. Ross thanked members on monthly benching and thanked the monthly judges – Greg Steenbeeke, Robert Moon and Mike Harrison for their support. Ross also highlighted the use of the MANOS Group Facebook as a way to get other community members interested and highlighted Tony Costa, Kyle Hall and Justin Lee for support in posting to Facebook.

Treasurer's Report:

Opening Balance - \$10,111.19

Income: \$ 1,936.45

Expenditure: \$ 1,862.04

Income in Cheque Account \$80.43

Closing Balance - \$10,191.20

Surplus Goods: - \$ 407.60

Life Membership: Nil

Elections:

The President called for nominations for Returning Officer.

Nominated: Jim Cootes Moved: Mike Harrison Seconded: Tony Asquith Carried

The Returning Officer thanked Wally for his leadership during 2021 / 2022 and declared all positions vacant.

POSITION	APPLICANT	MOVED	SECONDED	RESPONSE
President	Wally Southwell	Carol Asquith	Wendy Estall	Carried
Vice President	Greg Steenbeeke	Graeme Morrison	Gordon Bush	Carried
Secretary	Ross Morrison	Wally Southwell	Carol Asquith	Carried
Treasurer	Carol Asquith	Wendy Estall	Gordon Bush	Carried
Editor	Tony Asquith	Graeme Morrison	Wally Southwell	Carried
Conservation Officer	Robert Moon	Margaret Southwell	Marjorie Yabsley	Carried
Show Marshal	Greg Steenbeeke	Ross Morrison	Wendy Estall	Carried
	Graeme Morrison	Wally Southwell	Margaret Southwell	Carried

Librarian	Margaret Southwell	Brian Birch	Noel Bates	Carried
Committee	Kyle Hall	Ian Lawson	Gordon Bush	Carried
Committee	Noel Bates	Margaret Southwell	Ross Morrison	Carried
	Jim Cootes	Ross Morrison	Wally Southwell	Carried
	Marjorie Yabsley	Graeme Morrison	Jim Cootes	Carried
	Gordon Bush	Wally Southwell	Margaret Southwell	Carried
Sales Table Coordinator	Graeme Morrison	Noel Bates	Mike Morris	Carried

Motion:

That the Annual Return be completed and forwarded by the Public Officer (Wally Southwell) to Fair Trading.

Moved: Ross Morrison Seconded: Carol Asquith Carried

Close of Annual General Meeting at 8.20pm

2022 July General Meeting Minutes

The Chair – opened the General meeting at 8.21pm

Attendance: As per the 2022 July AGM.

Acceptance of Previous Minutes:

Motion: The 2022 June minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Gordon Bush Seconded: Mike Morris Carried

Business Arising: Nil

Correspondence: 1. Kiwi Bark Brochure

2. ANOS Membership Receipt

3. Central Coast ANOS Monthly Newsletter

4. Kings Nursery Offer and Catalogue

5. ANOS President Request

6. Camden Council Grants Success

7. Zoe-Joy Scanlin, RBG offer

Business Arising from Correspondence:

ANOS President Request and Camden Council Grant Success held over till General Business

Treasurer's Report: As per AGM.

General Business

- **Wally made a special badge presentation to new member – Maureen Gillett**
- **Ross sought advice on growing habits of old canes of *Dendrobium speciosum*. Greg S highlighted the fact that because of evolutionary survive, old canes when split may initial buds to create seeds for a period although not producing new canes. Cutting the early budding off may precipitate cane growth.**
- **ANOS President Request: Three questions posed:**
 1. How you think your association is progressing since the upheaval of the recent virus pandemic and mandated shutdowns?
Good - through the use of technology and social media plus the accessing of community grants.
 2. Do you think ANOS is still as relevant in 2022? Should the focus of ANOS be adjusted? This could include the ANOS plant benching eligibility rules, *The Orchadian* and/or the ANOS judging system (both show and monthly meeting bench judging and award judging).

3. *Yes – as the umbrella group for a nation network. Importantly the Judging Panel and not the ANOS Council should set the judging system.*
4. What can ANOS council do to assist you?
Remain as the leadership group. Increase State advocacy as needed. Modernise and try new things – Facebook / online presentations etc

● **Camden Council Grant Success:** MANOS has been successful in securing a Healthy Lifestyle Grant of \$975 for orchid supplies. The Senior Executive of MANOS has decided to provide \$40 to each member to purchase orchid media, fertilisers, pots etc. This decision was endorsed by the meeting. The Treasurer will issue a \$40 cheque to all members over the coming meetings. Members can order with Bob Bishop – Kiwi Bark and supplies will be delivered to the next meeting or provided the Secretary with a receipt of \$40 or above for like products and the Treasurer will send the cheque.

Benching Talk - Mike Harrison provided a wonderful discussion on a few of the benched orchids. *Sarcochilus Ozzy Dil*, *Mediocalcar decoratum* and *Dendrobium lichenastrum*

Raffles - Colin Long, Mike Harrison, Wendy Estall, Peter Brown

July Benching Results

Benching Class	Place	Plant Name	Owner
Dendrobium species	1	<i>Dendrobium tetragonum</i> 'Conway x Noahs'	Margaret and Wally Southwell
	2	<i>Dendrobium lichenastrum</i>	Margaret and Wally Southwell
Dendrobium hybrid	1	Dendrobium Issy's Delight	Carol & Anthony Asquith
	2	Dendrobium Esme Poulton	Carol & Anthony Asquith
Sarcanthinae hybrid	1	<i>Sarcochilus Ozzy Dil</i>	Ross Morrison
Bulbophyllum species	1	<i>Bulbophyllum elisae</i>	Kyle Hall
	2	<i>Bulbophyllum shepherdii</i>	Ross Morrison
Rhizobium species	1	<i>Dendrobium teretifolium</i>	Mike Harrison
Rhizobium hybrid	1	Den (Aust. Ginger x <i>convoluta</i>) x <i>mortii</i>	Margaret and Wally Southwell
		<i>X teretifolia</i>	
Australian species other	1	<i>Cadetia taylorii</i>	Mike Harrison
Terrestrial Pterostylis species	1	<i>Pterostylis curta</i>	Ross Morrison
	2	<i>Pterostylis concinna</i>	Mike Harrison
Terrestrial hybrid	1	Pterostylis Nodding Grace	Margaret and Wally Southwell
		<i>Pterostylis concinna x grandiflora</i>	Margaret and Wally Southwell
Terrestrial Species other	1	<i>Acianthus fornicatus</i>	Ross Morrison
Australasian species	1	<i>Mediocalcar decoratum</i>	Ross Morrison
Seedling	1	Dendrobium Starsheen x <i>tetragonum</i>	Kyle Hall
	2	Dendrobium Australian Rhubarb x Jazz	Ross Morrison
Judge's Choice		Dendrobium Starsheen x <i>tetragonum</i>	Kyle Hall
Popular Choice		<i>Pterostylis curta</i>	Ross Morrison

Further General Business

● 2022 Meeting Dates

	16 August	20 September
18 October	15 November	20 December

Meeting Closed at 9.20 pm

This article appears in SUTHERLAND SHIRE ORCHID SOCIETY's Website. (The original article was accompanied by a number of Sarc. photos)

Sarcochilus Growing Hints since moving to the Shoalhaven

The term 'sarco' is commonly used to refer to a group of genera including SARCOCHILUS, PLECTORRHIZA, RHINERRHIZA, PARASARCOCHILUS, SCHISTOSTYLIS, PERISTANTHUS etc. (all cool growers) and even PHALAENOPSIS (namely amabilis, the only native and definitely a warm grower). The term is also used to refer to an ever increasing number of hybrids both within and between these groups. The use of this term is often incorrect.

Growing Conditions They are grown in a shadehouse. I use one layer of 70% shadecloth in winter (maybe Easter to the October long weekend) for the rest of the year two layers of 70% are used. When I lived in Sydney the floor under my benches was a layer of pinebark while the walkways were made of river pebbles and on hot days these were hosed down to moderate temperature and increase humidity. Some protection from westerly winds proved beneficial. Since moving to the south Coast my greenhouse floor is simply weed mat which has been fixed to the shadecloth walls to create security from the bugs. At this stage maintaining humidity is not an issue in the new location but the weed mat is easily kept clean with an occasional sweep. I use weldmesh benches and round pots to increase airflow around the plants.

Mixes I have been using 12-18 mm Orchidmate (coco chips) with 20% Maidenwell Stone (diatomite) of a similar size to the coco chips. While this produced excellent results when I was living in Sydney it proved to be too moisture retentive in the cooler, wetter Shoalhaven winters. In early 2013 after a bout of crown rot I began moving my Sarco.s into a pine bark mix and experimented with several brands of 'orchid bark' finally settling on the largest grade of Orchiata which I have found to be the most consistently hard bark of those trialled. I am getting excellent growth with this product in the short term but time will tell whether it merits the extra expense and tedious task of picking out all of the pieces of wood.

Coarse Maidenwell Stone is combined with the Orchiata at about 20% volume. This very coarse mix is **shaken** into the 80mm and larger pots and **never** pushed in with a stick or thumbs which may result in a more stable newly potted plant but damaged roots and a drainage disaster waiting to happen at a later stage. Maidenwell stone is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain, especially the larger grades, so an alternative such as rounded river pebbles may need to be considered in the future. It should be noted that this is a VERY open mix designed to counter wet winters and will certainly demand extra watering in summer but it is always easier to put more water into your pots than to take it out! The extra watering requirement may also allow extra opportunities to apply liquid fertilizer.

Pots and Mounts

1. Pots; Plastic squat pots, well drained, are my preference. Watch out for fat juicy roots or pebbles blocking your drainage! Terracotta pots are also very good. Sarco. Roberta 'Superyolker' Sarco. Coolendel 'Egg Yolk' Sarco. falcatus
2. 2. Mounts; Some species prefer to be mounted (usually Sarco. falcatus, weinthalii, Plecto. tridentata. Rhiner. divitiflora) and there are endless possibilities that will suit them. Try some of the following - red cedar, melaleuca branches, treefern slabs, cork, aged fence palings, bagasse or gutterguard pouches filled with bark. You should not overlook tying some to live trees in your garden. When mounting them you can use fishing line or stocking strips or strips of shadecloth but you must tie them on tightly, around the roots and never the stems
3. 3. I have recently had some success with 50mm seedling tubes cut in half lengthways and hot glued to a piece of cork or similar. A plant placed in the half tube with a couple of coco chips seems to benefit from having the best of both worlds.

Fertilising As for all other natives - **little and often** - but as sarco's grow year round (and especially in autumn) then winter fertilising should be maintained. I often forget to fertilise so now I apply a top-dressing of blood and bone with dolomite in a 50:50 mixture after they are repotted and again every few months especially when rain is coming. Now that I am using a coarse mix I am top dressing with an organic pelletised fertilizer such as Organic Life or Katek. These have the advantage of being larger

particles that will not wash through the pots as readily as the blood and bone/dolomite mixture, they also claim to have extra 'goodies' such as trace elements. Most fertilisers are suitable and the following have been used with little problem – Strikeback For Orchids, Aquasol, Nitrosol, fish emulsion, Campbells, Phostrogen, Peters, HSO 8, Nutricote and similar products. A little extra Epsom Salts and iron chelates occasionally does no harm. It is always a good idea to alternate between brands and always water at least once between applications of fertiliser.

I have recently come to the conclusion that it is imperative to use some organic fertiliser and I find that I am using chemical fertilizers less often. The use of lime is popular with growers who use pine bark but is not recommended for coco mixes which are not as acid as decaying bark and could see Ph rise to unacceptable levels.

Repotting

This can be done anytime but avoid the hottest and coldest periods, autumn seems to be the best. They like fresh mix and should be repotted at least every two years. A drench with Seasol immediately after potting seems to eliminate transplant shock. Never compress any mixture into the pot (it is almost compulsive for humans to 'firm' plants in with their thumbs!) This is responsible for most drainage failures as it defeats the purpose of having an open, well drained mix.

Yes, – I am nagging!

Watering

Sarco's have no pseudobulbs and so cannot withstand long periods without water. They are surprisingly resilient due to their thick leaves and fleshy roots which enable them to survive short dry spells and watering routines should reflect this. Lack of water is less critical if high levels of humidity are maintained. *S. ceciliae* has its own requirements preferring to be grown a little on the dry side. I used to grow them in terra cotta pots under cover and give them a good drenching then allow them to dry out.

If you were to water your orchids and then go around and tip some out of their pots you may get a real surprise as to the inconsistent job you have done – especially if you compare pots from different parts of your benches. Plants on the edges of benches seem to come off worst. Several Shoalhaven Orchid Society growers have developed a technique of potting their plants in clear plastic drinking cups with drainage holes cut out and then inserting this cup inside a conventional pot. This allows for the inspection of root growth, moisture levels and monitoring of how well you have been settling the mix in around the roots.

A few such plants scattered around your benches could help take some of the guesswork out of watering.

Pests

Sarco's have no particular problems in this area except for *S. ceciliae* which occasionally becomes infested with scale. I prefer to scratch them off and keep the ants at bay as much as possible. White oil, the recommended treatment should be used with caution or you can do what I did – stop growing them!

An occasional spray with one of the newer pest oil products can be useful while phosacid seems to be an effective and safe fungicide.

Neville Roper September 2013

Editor's note: I hope you enjoy the article..lots of Neville Roper's best. I only hope I haven't published this earlier.

GOOD GROWING!