



Australian Native Orchid Society - Macarthur Group

SEPTEMBER 2020

Edited by Tony Asquith mail: aaasquith@bigpond.com. Phone 4625 9874



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: 17th NOVEMBER, 2020

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

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 7.55pm, meeting starts 8pm

Hi to All

Due to corona virus the October Show was cancelled, an unfortunate thing for the club, but the safety and well being of members is paramount. The management of Oran Park Podium was very understanding and we talked about having shows again next year.

Mike Harrison agreed that with the sale of Terry Cooke's orchid collection last month and this month to hold over his talk until January.

The rest of Terry's collection will be sold at this meeting, and it is good to see that the collection has been spread throughout the membership of the club. There will be a tuber sale night at this meeting and then again in January.

ALL COVID RESTRICTIONS STILL APPLY --- NO SUPPER

There will be NO meeting or CHRISTMAS PARTY in December this year. Next year we may start to get back to normality.

It is early, but Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

Stay safe and well,

Wally

General Meeting – 20 October 2020 7.55pm

Minutes of Meeting

The President welcomed everyone to the October meeting.

Attendance:

(Members:Face to Face) –as per sign on book but included Mike H, Mike M, Col L, Ian L, Marje Y, Tony C, Sandra C, Tony and Carol A, Don R, Marg and Wally S, Graeme and Ross M, Peter B, Greg S, Jim C, Julia B. Gordon B, Phil G, Robert M.

Members: (Online) – Noel B

Apologies: Jagath D, MaryAnne W, Diane Mcd

Acceptance of Previous Minutes:

Moved: Ian Lawson Seconded: Don Roberts Carried

Business Arising: Carried forwarded to General Business

Correspondence:

In: 29 September – Gerry Smee: request for judge info. For October Show

6 October – AGL Grant Successes

7 October – Central Coast ANOS Newsletter

19 October – ANOS Quarterly Bulletin

Out:

7 October – Thank you to AGL

14 October – Thank you to Central Coast ANOS

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer presented an update on the monthly income and expenditure closing Balance - \$4,974.84

Moved: Carol Asquith Seconded: Gordon Bush Carried

General Business

- The President highlighted the success of the AGL – Orchid survey application and congratulated the Secretary.
- The Secretary highlighted the Grant expectations and outcomes including

Updating of known orchids of Macarthur

Rescue digs as appropriate and needed

Production of an Information Pamphlet

The Secretary highlighted the need to create a subcommittee and requested members and the development of a business plan and indicated monthly updates would occur.

- The President distributed the Spring Show sashes

CHAMPIONS	Plant	Grower
<i>Native Epiphyte Orchid - Species</i>	<i>Dockrilliaschoenina 'English'</i>	Ross Morrison
<i>Native Epiphyte Orchid - Hybrid</i>	<i>Dendrobium Sarah Jane 'Belle'</i>	Don Roberts
<i>Australasian Orchid</i>	<i>Dockrillia Australian Ginger 'Rabbit'</i>	Greg Steenbeeke
<i>First Flowering Seedling</i>	<i>Dendrobium speciosum</i> var Nifty x NW	Ian Lawson
<i>Specimen Orchid</i>	<i>Dendrobium Issy's Pride</i>	Sandra Crosby / Tony Costa
<i>Terrestrial Orchid</i>	<i>Diuris pardina</i>	Greg Steenbeeke
<i>Dendrobium speciosum (AubBruniges Trophy)</i>	<i>Dendrobium speciosum 'Nifty'</i>	Ian Lawson
<i>Reserve Grand Champion</i>	<i>Dockrilliaschoenina 'English'</i>	Ross Morrison
<i>Grand Champion</i>	<i>Dendrobium Sarah Jane 'Belle'</i>	Don Roberts

- Spring Show sales table money was distributed

Sarcochilus Show cancellation was discussed owing to the ongoing health concerns in the Oran Park area.

Motion: Cancel the 2020 Sarcochilus Show.

Moved: Margaret Southwell Seconded: Don Roberts Carried

- Discussion occurred around the cancellation of the December meeting / Xmas function / Hamper

Motion: Cancel the 2020 December meeting / Xmas function / Hampers.

Moved: Graeme Morrison Seconded: Don Roberts Carried

- The Secretary asked to notify Gerry Smee regarding cancellation and the President to notify venue management.

Further General Business

- Sale of part of Terry Cooke's orchid collection.
- October Presentation: Sarcochilus relatives by Mike Harrison postponed to November.
- Tuberbank sales to occur at November and January meetings – Secretary to send out possible sales.
- October Benching Presentation (5 Plants) was shown a number of times and voting on the Virtual Benching was noted.

Benching Class	Place	Plant Name	Owner
Dendrobium species	1	<i>Dendrobium kingianum 'Blizzard'</i>	Mike Harrison
	2	<i>Dendrobium tetragonum</i>	Mike Harrison
Dendrobium hybrid	1	Den. Memoria Lloyd Bradford	Carol and Tony Asquith
Sarcanthinae species	1	<i>Rhinerrhizodiviflora</i>	Carol and Tony Asquith
	2	<i>Sarcochilusfalcatus</i>	Mike Harrison
Sarcanthinae hybrid	1	Sarcochilus George Colthup x Fizzy Dove	Carol and Tony Asquith
	2	SarcochilusHeidi x Kulnura Glimmer	Don Roberts
Rhizobium species	1	<i>Dendrobium linguiforme</i>	Mike Harrison
	2	<i>Dendrobium linguiforme</i>	Mike Harrison
Terrestrial Pterostylis Species	1	<i>Pterostylisargillicola</i>	Greg Steenbeeke
		<i>Pterostylisargillicola</i>	Greg Steenbeeke
Terrestrial Diuris Species	1	<i>Diuris parvipetala</i>	Greg Steenbeeke
Terrestrial Species other	1	<i>Microtisparvifolia</i>	Greg Steenbeeke
Seedling	1	SarcochilusBonsza x Sweetheart	Greg Steenbeeke
	2	Sarcochilus Bunyip x Kulnura Rusty	Carol and Tony Asquith
Growing Competition	1		Ross Morrison
	2		Gordon Bush
Virtual Benching	1	<i>Dendrobium linguiforme</i>	Noel Bates
Judge's Choice		<i>Rhinerrhizodiviflora</i>	Carol and Tony Asquith
Popular Choice		<i>Rhinerrhizodiviflora</i>	Carol and Tony Asquith

Raffles: Ross Morrison, Sandra Crosby, Phil Griffiths

Meeting Closed at 9.40pm.

This article is from Native Orchid Society of South Australia, November Journal 2020.

(It has 3 photos with the article... my computer set-up is still giving problems..if you would like to see the photos, go on-line and look it up on the internet please)

Growing great terrestrials

Les Nesbitt

December

A few late orchids such as *Diuris drummondii* may still have green leaves and flowers so will need watering every couple of days. Most terrestrials will have died down by now on the Adelaide Plain. Watering consists of a quick squirt with the hose once a week to moisten the top 1cm to prevent tubers shriveling. A small terrestrial collection of pots can be moved to a cooler place out of direct sun under a bench or to the south side of the house. A large collection must stay on the benches so an extra layer of shade cloth is added for the summer.

Repotting is in full swing now. Keep a stock of the required materials on hand including sand, soil, native potting mix, clay, blood & bone, chopped sheoak needles, smashed and sieved gum leaves, pots, labels, shadecloth squares for crocking, pencils to write on plastic, sieve and bowl, watering can & shadehouse benching. A system for washing and sterilizing pots before reuse is essential to control disease and virus.

Pots dry out quickly in hot windy weather. Water a day or 2 before repotting so that the potting mix is just moist. If too dry dust will be a problem and tubers can be damaged by hard lumps of mix. Too wet and the mix sticks to the tubers and clogs the sieve. The ideal is a moist mix that is easy to work when separating tubers from mix. It helps to move some pots under cover in case of rain. Wet pots take several days to dry out which can hold up repotting. Alternatively, a sheet of plastic over the pots when rain is forecast will shed the water but remember to weigh it down with bricks or it will blow away. Discard the top 5mm of mix from the previous year as this often contains moss, lichen and other undesirables.

Pick out the tubers and put them in a kitchen sieve sitting in a container of water. Use a jet of water to wash the tubers clean and then spread them on a towel to dry. Discard any tubers that are soft or have turned black. If the tubers are healthy, firm and a pale colour the mix can be reused. Colony type tubers should have at least doubled in number since last year. Add half fresh mix to the old mix and add a big pinch of blood & bone fertilizer. Should the old mix be dark in colour, or the tubers not be healthy looking then throw out the old mix and pot up in new mix.

Select the pot size, place a shadecloth square in the pot to retain the mix when it dries out. Fill the pot with mix to 2-3 cm from the top. Select the largest tubers for a display pot and push them into the mix with the shoot on top. The small tubers can be potted in another pot to grow bigger next year. Cover the tubers with more mix and almost fill the pot. Firm the mix down with your hand or use the bottom of an empty pot. Cover the surface with chopped she-oak needles. Write out a label with the name of the orchid and the provenance, if known. On the back of the label note the number of tubers and the date planted. Water the pot gently so as to not disturb the needles. This helps settle the soil around the tubers and makes subsequent watering easier. Put the finished pots back in the shadehouse to await the next growing season.

Send off your tuber bank order before Xmas or you might miss out on your choices. The tuber bank is a great way to increase your terrestrial collection.

January

Start watering the blue tag pots in January. Pots of orchids from the East Coast of Australia where it rains in Summer are given a blue tag as the culture is different compared to local terrestrial orchids. This early shooting group includes most cauline greenhoods, *Ptst. baptistii* and *Corybas hispidus*. Local South Australian tubers can be kept completely dry until at least mid February if pots are shaded.

When your tuber bank order arrives, pot up the tubers straight away. Plant each species in a separate 125mm or 150mm pot. Don't forget to record the provenance name (if known) on the label and in your recording system. The provenance is the location of the original collection. Provenance is important because in 10 years the orchid will possibly be extinct in that area as suburbia expands or weeds take over the habitat.

Summer watering is important. Too little and tubers may shrivel up. Too much and they may rot or come up early before the heat of summer is over when they will be attacked by thrip and aphids. A light sprinkle on top of the pots once a week works OK.

Try to finish repotting this month. If left until February there is more chance of breaking off the new shoots which can be well developed by late February. Native Orchid Society of South Australia

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Editor's note.. In Ku-Ring-Gai Orchid Society's Bulletin of November 2020, Editor Jim Brydie has printed an article from St. Augustine Orchid Society in Florida, USA. It is called "After The Cull" and is authored by Sue Bottom who writes excellent articles about our hobby. At the conclusion of the article, which is about discarding struggling plants in your collection, Jim Brydie comments on the article....his comments are quite timely.

You can see articles by Sue Bottom by going to www.staugorchidsociety.org

Stay safe and regards to all, Tony

GOOD GROWING