



Volume 40 Number 1

January-February 2025

## Bulletin

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## Society meetings

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month (except January) at the Ainslie Football Club, 52 Wakefield Ave, Ainslie, at 7:00 pm for a 7:30 pm start. Visitors are welcome.

## Next Meetings

**Wednesday 5 February** – Growing paphiopedilums by Mike Pieloor and David Judge

**Wednesday 5 March**- “All you need to know about deflasking orchids” by Scott Mann

## Upcoming Events

March 22-23 – Orchid Weekend Workshop hosted by the Eurobodalla Orchid Club, Tuross Head

April 12-13 – Collectors Plant Fair, Penrith (many orchid vendors)

May 23-25 - Orchids Out West-Hawkesbury Showground (many vendors!)

June 28-29 – Mingara Orchid Fair, Tumbi Umbi, NSW (more vendors!)

Sept 20-21 – South & West Region Orchid Show and Conference, hosted by the Orchid Society of Canberra

October 1-5 - AOC International Conference and Show, Woolgoolga, NSW

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## Disclaimer

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Contributions to the Bulletin are welcome and should be emailed to Krysia at [secretary@canberraorchids.org](mailto:secretary@canberraorchids.org).  
**Deadline** for March-April edition is 20 February 2025.

## **From the President**

Welcome to 2025. Let's hope it's a fabulous orchid year.

Certainly, 2024 was fun. We joined with the Horticultural Society to share the venue at EPIC for our show, and while the last-minute change of venue was a challenge, we made it work. We welcomed 22 new members. Our members participated in the Horticultural Society's shows, and manned stalls at Bunnings to spread the word about orchids and the Society. Members went out to see native orchids in the bush and attended orchid potting workshops at the homes of Bill Ferris and Karen Groeneveld.

Once again, we have been invited to have a plant stall at the Horticultural Society's Autumn Flower Show on 1-2 March 2025 (more info elsewhere). And don't forget that there are multiple orchid classes in the Autumn Show, so make sure to enter your orchids in the show. It's a great way to get people interested in orchid growing.

Later in March, the Eurobodalla Orchid Club will be hosting the Orchid Workshop Weekend on 22-23 March in Tuross Head. The word is that they have lined up Stephen Stebbing and Jeanne Dunne so far. More details soon.

Your committee is already planning for the show in spring, when we will host the South and West Region Orchid Show and Conference. We will again share the Fitzroy Pavilion with the Horticultural Society's Spring Bulb and Camellia Show and run a lecture program for conference delegates in the nearby Mallee Pavilion, where the show was last year.

The Australian Orchid Council's triennial show and conference is being held this year in Woolgoolga, NSW, just north of Coff's Harbour. Our Society will be mounting a display, and we hope quite a few members will take the opportunity to travel north to catch the show. More details elsewhere in the bulletin.

*Jane Wright*

## **Horticultural Society Autumn Show 1-2 March 2025**

The Horticultural Society (HSOC) Autumn show is on 1-2 March in the Cooyong Building at EPIC (not the Fitzroy Pavilion where it was last year). As usual there will be categories for orchid entries and we will remind you of the classes as soon as the schedule is loaded to the HSOC website [www.hsoc.org.au](http://www.hsoc.org.au).

The Society will be mounting a sales table at this show and, in absence of a HSOC sales table, members are welcome to sell whatever plants they have, not just orchids. The usual Society terms and conditions will apply. So, get busy prepping plants for sale.

Closer to the event we will need you to indicate if you will be selling plants, the approximate space you need and when you can help staff the sales table.

## **South and West Region Orchid Show and Conference 19-20 September 2025**

We will again join with the Horticultural Society's Spring Bulb and Camellia Show and share the Fitzroy Pavilion at EPIC and run a lecture program for conference delegates in the nearby Mallee Pavilion, where the show was last year.

The theme for the displays is "Musicals" and the society's display team is busy thinking about how to turn a crazy concept into reality (and of course, show the orchids to their best advantage). Should be fun to see what the other societies will do.

We hope that members will be able to attend the conference part of the weekend, so we'll need to draft in as many significant others, family and friends to help out at the show, especially for security.

## 2025 Australian Orchid Council International Conference and Show 3-5 October 2025



The AOC Conferences and Shows occur every three years, with the last one in Logan, Queensland. This year the Woolgoolga District Orchid Society will be hosting. They have an interesting lineup of 4 international and 5 national speakers. They expect displays to be mounted by clubs from all over Australia (including ours!). There will be about 20 vendors of orchids and orchid-related products. All-in-all, a very exciting event.

Early bird registration for the conference and show is only \$220 before 1 July 2025.

See all the details at [www.aCO2025.org.au](http://www.aCO2025.org.au)

We are looking for expressions of interest from members who might like to attend and share accommodation. We generally can find a large house with multiple bedrooms and bathrooms so we

can stay together. We are planning to do a display so we'll need helpers to drive up with plants on the Monday so we can set up the display on Wednesday in preparation for judging on Thursday (which will take all day!).

If you are interested, please contact Jane Wright at [info@canberraorchids.org](mailto:info@canberraorchids.org).

### 2028 Australian Orchid Council Conference and Show

Your committee is currently investigating whether it is feasible for us to host the conference and show in 2028.

#### New members

Welcome to new members Elizabeth and George Cribbon, and Robert and Heather Firth, and to returning members Pamela and Richard Phillips. We hope you will enjoy your association with us.

#### Advancement in benching

Congratulations to Brigitte Smithies who advances to Novice except for Cymbidium, and to Jacqui and Claire Turner and Megan and Josh Philips who advance to Open in all classes, having won first prizes in 3 different genera at the show.



#### Vale Peter Cudmore

We salute a longtime supporter of the Orchid Society, who passed away recently. Peter's wife, Sheila Cudmore was President from 1992-96 and Peter was always there, helping behind the scenes. He prepared crossword puzzles for the *Bulletin* for years and we could count on Peter to give entertaining after-dinner talks at events, often about the pitfalls in making orchid-growing structures for Sheila. Farewell, our friend.

### Cultural tips for January-February

- The fluctuations in temperature in recent months has caused some variation in the timing of orchid growth and flowering. Many species of Australian terrestrials are now in growth phase with the green shoots starting to appear. If you haven't already repotted it may be best to leave it to year end, after all they don't get repotted each year in the bush. The 'fungus-dependent' terrestrials, such as *Caladenia* sp. are best left undisturbed for several years or repotted when mature. Also gradually increase watering of the terrestrials as shoots appear.
- For other orchids, water regularly to ensure sufficient moisture for your growing conditions. Watering in the evening gives your plants time to absorb the water before the heat of the following day.
- Keep pots cool. Fertilise your plants to strengthen new growth and encourage flower development. Better to use more dilute dose more often than to give a heavy dose that may harm the roots.
- Monitor for pests. Mites and mealy bugs are still active and aphids and munching pests can quickly take hold. Scale multiplies rapidly at this time of year. Check your plants at night with a torch to do some on-the-spot extermination of slugs and snails
- Repot plants in active growth that have outgrown their current pot, or if the bark has started to rot down.
- Check out our Society's book *Growing Orchids in Cool Climate Australia* for more cultural tips.

### Orchid Society of Canberra Monthly Meeting – November 2024

Venue: Ainslie Football Club

Date: Wednesday 6 November 2024

Present: 47; Apologies: 16; Visitors: 3

Meeting opened 7.30 pm

Jane Wright welcomed all present.

Jane introduced David Brooks and his presentation, *Getting the Best from your Cymbidiums*.

David opened noting that one of the most challenging things about growing cymbidiums at the moment is changes in the climate. He discussed the many factors that need to be considered.

#### *Temperature:*

- Cymbidiums prefer mild conditions. Growth stops when leaf temperature exceeds 30C and don't like temperature under 10C. They prefer a temperature drop of about 15°C to initiate flower spikes in Spring.

#### *Radiant heat:*

- Radiant heat is higher under plastic film and polycarbonate than shade cloth. It decreases as the distance from the roof decreases, so in summer maximise distance from the roof and in winter hang a plant closer to the roof.

#### *Water:*

- The leaf area of a cymbidium is quite large compared to most other orchids so they need a lot of water when actively growing. Vary watering frequency taking account of relative humidity and capacity/openness of the media.

#### *Light:*

- Higher light levels usually increase temperature, so good in winter but not so good in summer.

- Cymbidiums will grow better if they have less shade in winter and more shade in summer and tend to initiate flowering better if given high light levels in spring. Higher light gives tougher, shorter foliage with light green colour and less glossy.
- Many growers grew young plants under 70% shade and mature plants under 30-50% shade year round.
- Light levels affect flower colours - reds, pinks, and oranges often develop more intense colour with higher light during the bud stage. Be careful as too much light on the buds can sun stain many white, green, and yellow cymbidiums. Albas don't sunstain.
- Light levels can be modified by for example using heavier grades of shade cloth or an additional layer in summer.

Overall keep the environment cool and humid. Use evaporative coolers, misting fans/foggers overhead watering as needed.

In response to questions David commented:

- the growing conditions he outlined applied to all species of cymbidiums .Jane added that this was the case because standard and intermediate cymbids are bred from a small number of species
- that he repots cymbidiums whenever needed, especially if they look a bit sick. Be careful in hotter weather and when plants are in spike.
- Cymbidiums could be grown in waterwell pots but the medium needed to be open.
- flower spikes could be cut off whenever it suits
- divide plants when too big for the pot

Members can view David's presentation on the Member page of the website.

Jane noted for our new people the key members of the society, introducing the VP and the treasurer. She also noted that Christmas party sign-ups and payments were accepted tonight. Christmas Party is being subsidised by the club. Cost \$40 a head in alternate serve courses. There will be prizes and games. Note dietary requirements please.

Mike asked members to please use the QR code for digital voting rather than the paper form where possible.

Derek noted a new version of a book that is a field guide for local orchids is going to be published, wants to gauge interest of pre-orders. Suspected cost of about \$50. Members to contact Scott (Treasurer) to order.

Mark Clements presented Part 3 of *How Do You Pronounce Those Names and What Do They Mean*. Mark discussed how to pronounce and the underlying meaning of *Arthrochilus*, *Diplocaulobium*, *Ceraia*, *Coelandria* (noted really cool bird pollination when the glue-like pollen sticks to the beak), *Vrydagzynea albostrata*, and brought up the dreaded *Yztactepetzacuxochitl* ('unpronounceable') again. Members can view Mark's presentation on the Member page of the website.

Bill discussed potting workshop on Sunday at his place, gave address and to let him know if coming and bringing a plant. An email will go out again to the society members with further info. Bill also asked members to advise the society when they change their email address so we can keep in touch and the members page access issued to members.

Jane outlined the Horticultural Society show upcoming next weekend.

Mike Pieloor discussed the Australian Native Orchid Society Victoria Tuber Bank. He would co-ordinate an order for Society members.

Jane thanked the members for the good turn-out at the meeting. Special thanks went to David Brooks for his talk and she thanked all the helpers for the meeting.

No meeting in January, next meeting will be on February. Keep an eye out for the *Bulletin* in January.

Meeting concluded 9:50pm.

**Popular Vote Results November 2024**

#	Class Name	Plant	Owner
<b>OPEN</b>			
1	Australian Epiphyte	<i>Sarcochilus</i> Kulnura Ballerina 'Pink'	Mike Pieloor
	<i>Others Benched: Sarco. Earth's Parade; Sarco. Elegance; Cymbidium canaliculatum</i>		
2	Australian Terrestrial	<i>Dienia ophrydis</i>	Mark Clements
	<i>Others Benched : Diuris punctata</i>		
3	Cymbidium	<i>Cymbidium</i> Australian Midnight 'Black Beauty'	Pamela Phillips
	<i>Others Benched: Cymb. Sarah Jean 'Ice Cascade'</i>		
4	Laeliinae	<i>Cattleya maxima</i>	Mark Clements
	<i>Others Benched: Cattleya lobata var. delicata 'Lush' ; Cattleya Canhamiana; C. Schilleriana</i>		
5	Paphiopedilum	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Shun-Fa Web	Mike Pieloor
	<i>Others Benched: Paph. delenatii; Paph. Hung Sheng Glow x Hung Sheng Bay</i>		
6	Monopodial Vandaeae	<i>Renanthera citrina</i>	Karen Groeneveld
	<i>Others Benched: Ascocentrum garayi; Chiloschista exuperei; Phal. allura; Phal. cornu-cervi; Vanda ampullacea, V. Lucknow</i>		
7	Oncidiinae	<i>Psychopsis</i> Mendenhall 'Hildos'	Brian Shelvey
	<i>Others Benched: Oncostele Tan Treasures 'Puppy Pleasure'</i>		
8	Pleurothallidinae	<i>Masdevallia coccinea</i>	Mike Peiloor
	<i>Others Benched: Stelis peliochyla; Pleurothallis tarantula.</i>		
9	Exotic Dendrobiinae	<i>Dendrobium bracteosum 'Yuan'</i>	Andrea Robold
	<i>Others Benched: Dendrobium nobile var virginale; Den. moniliforme; Den. aphyllum; Callista amabilis</i>		
10	Coelogyninae	<i>Coelogyne brachyptera</i>	Karen Groeneveld
	<i>Others Benched: Pholidata chinensis</i>		
12	Maxillariinae	<i>Maxillaria</i> sp. aff <i>rodrigueziana</i>	Karen Groeneveld
	<i>Others Benched: Nil</i>		
13	Exotic terrestrials	<i>Pelexia maculata</i>	Jane Wright
	<i>Others Benched: Nil</i>		
<b>NOVICE</b>			
15	Australian Native	<i>Sarcochilus</i> Unknown	Na Khanprasert
	<i>Others Benched: Sarc. Unknown</i>		
16	Cymbidium	<i>Cymbidium</i> Wollar 'Pink Beauty'	Eric, Corinne, Laura, Sellers
	<i>Others Benched: Nil</i>		
17	Laeliinae	<i>Cattleya</i> Black Beauty	Na Khanprasert
	<i>Others Benched: Nil</i>		
18	Monopodial Vandaeae	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Philishill	Brendan McGarry
	<i>Others Benched: Phal. Unknown</i>		
19	Any Other Orchid	<i>Bulbopylum mastersianum</i>	Brendan McGarry
	<i>Others Benched: Tolumnia Jairak Firm</i>		
<b>OPEN Orchid of the Night</b>			
		<i>Psychopsis</i> Mendenhall 'Hildos'	Brian Shelvey
		<i>Cymbidium</i> Australian Midnight 'Black Beauty'	Pamela Phillips
<b>NOVICE Orchid of the Night</b>			
		<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Philishill	Brendan McGarry
<b>Judges' Choice - Species</b>			
		<i>Diuris punctata</i>	Mike Pieloor
<b>Judges' Choice - Hybrid</b>			
		<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Philishill	Brendan McGarry
<b>Judges' Choice - Specimen</b>			
		<i>Sarcochilus</i> Kulnura Ballerina 'Pink'	Mike Pieloor

**November Open Orchid of the Night Joint Winner.**

*Psychopsis* Mendenhall 'Hildos'

Grown by Brian Shelvey



To be honest this plant grows itself! I've never had an orchid grow so easily or prolifically!

I bought this gem maybe 4 years ago from Red Fox Orchids in QLD. I remember unwrapping it and being a little annoyed as there were a few holes in a leaf and a snail! It was quarantined immediately. I potted it up in a mix of bark, perlite and sphagnum moss and put it on a shelf near to a north facing window. It wasn't long before it popped out a new bulb then another and another. It's always been in a clear pot inside a darker pot for moisture monitoring. It has always been on the moist side never really fully drying out.

When I moved to Canberra last year it had already put on a flower spike and its first bloom on a 65cm stem achieved best orchid of the night. Since then it has bloomed one after another the current bloom being number 4.

When I moved to Canberra last year in the middle of winter I placed it in my bathroom which got quite cold and with little to no air flow.

Then this year when I set up my tropical paradise in the laundry I moved it to its current location.

In the laundry it gets some light from the nearby LED lighting and a tiny bit of late afternoon sun through a small window, a lot more warmth and a fair bit of humidity from a cheap humidifier I bought from Kmart. Call it a coincidence but its latest bloom was its largest. I had also repotted it into a larger pot.

I water all my orchids with a probiotic powder, which appears to work as my orchids have roots everywhere.

On a side note both James and I bought a flask each of the alba variety, they are very small plants and I'm sure either of us will be selling them anytime soon. However I have acquired another flask of a short flower stem *Psychopsis* and hopefully they will be ready for sale early next year.



**November Open Orchid of the Night Joint Winner.**

*Cymbidium* Australian Midnight 'black Beauty'

Grown by Pamela Phillips

## November Novice Orchid of the Night and Judges Choice - Hybrid

*Phalaenopsis* Philshill

Grown by Brendan MCGarry



This hybrid is *Phalaenopsis philippinense* x *schilleriana*. I'm giving the name of the cross a 2 out of 10 for creativity, but I can't deny that it's to the point.

I got this plant online from a grower up in Kuranda, Annie's Exotic Orchids, around two and a half years ago. I was a bit worried about how it would adjust, but it's a super vigorous hybrid and doesn't seem to mind Canberra's low temperatures. It lives indoors under LEDs for 12 hours per day, year round. I essentially let it dry completely between waterings, then bottom water it to keep the leaves and crown dry. I use the Orchid Grow Focus fertiliser per the label every other watering (when I remember). I don't use humidifiers, heat mats or the like - but I

will move it and some of my other tropicals into my bedroom over winter to stop them getting too chilly! I highly recommend this cross for anyone that wants the dashing good looks of a *Phalaenopsis schilleriana*, without the fuss.

## November Judges Choice - Species

*Diuris punctata*

Grown by Mike Pieloor



This species can be tricky. My plants came as dormant tubers from the Australasian Native Orchid Society (ANOS) tuber bank.

**Mix:** I've tried several mixes over the years, but a kanuma-based mix like I use for Caladenia seems to work under my conditions.

**Light and temperature:** Very bright, almost full sun. Diuris are sun-loving. It is grown in a cold house, so gets to -6 C, but is protected from frost.

**Water:** Regular watering while in active growth. Allow to dry more after flowers open and reduce watering while the plant is dormant over summer.

**Fertiliser:** Very weak soluble fertiliser when watering or slow release on top of the mix.



### November Judges Choice - Specimen

*Sarcochillus* Kulnura Ballerina 'Pink'

Grown by Mike Pieloor



I purchased this plant from Barrita orchids several years ago as a small flowering sized plant. It has grown bigger each year.

**Mix:** Coarse perlite, scoria and bark in roughly equal parts.

**Light and temperature:** Bright light in winter helps to initiate flowering, increased shade in summer to reduce heat stress. It is grown in a cold house, so gets to -6 C, but is protected from frost.

**Water:** Regular watering. I try to keep the mix moist all year round. Weekly in winter, 2-3 times a week in summer. *Sarcochilus* have no storage organs (unlike *Dendrobium* and *Cymbidium*). If your leaves are shrivelling, you need to check the roots and possibly water more.

**Fertiliser:** Weak fertiliser at almost every watering throughout the year. These plants never stop growing, they just slow down over winter.

### Not a Benched Plant but worth noting

Some plants are rarely benched for various reasons as is the case with Jacqui Turner's *Stanhopea nigroviolacea* (or *tigrina*).



Jacqui comments that the plant was her mums. It's lived in Hurstville Sydney where my mum was given a small basket of it in 1965. Mum gave me a division in 1984. I took that to Sale Victoria for 11 yrs then to Vermont South in Melbourne. In 1995 I moved it to Canberra. So we have had the plant in the family for around 60 years.

It has been repotted since it moved to Canberra but just into

bigger baskets. It's now in a 35cm basket the potting medium and paper bark is none existent. It's a solid root ball. It collects a huge amount of leaves in the top every autumn from the crabapple tree it hangs under. I leave them to rot down over winter while under cover in my north facing courtyard.

Come spring I feed several large handfuls of Strike Back orchid pellets in the rotting leaf litter in the top. This year it put out 43 spikes - one shrivelled at 10cm and the rest most were double inflorescence, but the top where there is no room between the bulbs were singles and they bloomed straight up.

A video of the plant is accessible on the home page of our website.

## Popular Vote Results: December 2024

#	Class Name	Plant	Owner
<b>OPEN</b>			
4	Laeliinae	<i>Epilaeliocattleya</i> René Marquéz 'Flame Thrower'	Tony Tritschler
		<i>Others Benched: Nil</i>	
5	Cypripedioidea	<i>Paph.</i> Hung Sheng Eagle	Mike Pieloor
		<i>Others Benched: Nil</i>	
6	Monopodial Vandeae	<i>Phalaenopsis pulchra</i>	Brian Shelvey
		<i>Others Benched: Angraecum didieri; Phal. fimbriata; Phal parishii; Vanda Lou Sneary</i>	
7	Oncidiinae	<i>Lockhartia oerstedii</i>	Karen Groeneveld
		<i>Others Benched: Oncidium edwallii; Alicereara Tahoma Glacier; Miltoniopsis Pink Cadillac; Miltonia flavescens</i>	
8	Pleurothallidinae	<i>Masdevallia deceptrix</i>	Tony Tritschler
		<i>Others Benched: Nil</i>	
9	Exotic Dendrobiinae	<i>Dendrobium glomeratum (syn. sulawesense)</i>	Andrea Robold
		<i>Others Benched: Coelandria capituliflora; Callista thyrsoiflora; Den. Yaya Victoria</i>	
10	Coelogyninae	<i>Coelogyne Memoria W Micholitz</i>	Geoff Dyne
		<i>Others Benched: Coelogyne marmorata</i>	
11	Bulbophyllinae	<i>Bulbophyllum oxypterum</i>	Mark Clements
		<i>Others Benched: Nil</i>	
12	Maxillariinae	<i>Maxillaria marginata</i>	Anrea Robold
		<i>Others Benched: Max. spilotantha; Max. pseudoreichenheimiana; Max. pulla; Max. punctostriata; Bifrenaria aureofulva.</i>	
13	Exotic terrestrials	<i>Disa uniflora</i>	Mike Pieloor
		<i>Others Benched: Dactylorhiza fuchsii; Disa Ethan; Phaius Island Fling</i>	
<b>NOVICE</b>			
18	Monopodial Vandeae	<i>Phal. Unknown (white)</i>	Megan and Joshua Philips
		<i>Others Benched: Phal. Unknown x2</i>	
	OPEN Orchid of the Night	<i>Disa uniflora</i>	Mike Pieloor
	NOVICE Orchid of the Night	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> unknown hybrid	Megan and Joshua Philips
	Judges' Choice - Species	<i>Disa uniflora</i>	Mike Pieloor
	Judges' Choice - Hybrid	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Hung Sheng Eagle	Mike Pieloor
	Judges' Choice - Specimen	<i>Lockhartia oerstedii</i>	Karen Groeneveld

## The Christmas Party

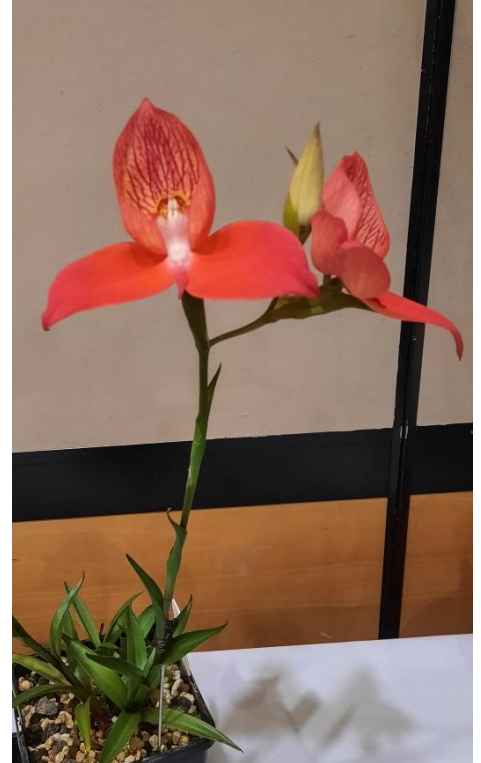
As usual, a great time was had by all. The Ainslie Football Club did a great job of producing our tasty meals while Mike Pieloor, Scott Mann and Jane Wright put us to work solving puzzles and writing song lyrics. And as usual, everyone won a orchid to take home.

Jane announced the winners of the Popular Vote for 2024: Mike Pieloor for the Open Section and James Jonklaas for the Novice Section. Also cheers to the members who attended every meeting in 2024: Andrea Robold, Ben Wallace, Brenda Thompson, Derek Corrigan, Jacque Bannerman, Joshua Philips and Megan Philips

**December Open Orchid of the night and  
Judges' Choice - Species**

*Disa uniflora*

Grown by Mike Pieloor



**December Novice Orchid of the Night**

*Phalaenopsis* unknown hybrid

Grown by Megan and Joshua Philips

**December Judges' Choice - Hybrid**

*Phalaenopsis* Hung Sheng Eagle

Grown by Mike Pieloor





**December Judges' Choice - Specimen**

*Lockhartia oerstedii*

Grown by Karen Groeneveld

**Iris, Rhododendron & Azalea Show October 2024 – Orchid Results**

Class	Description	Place	Plant	Owner
51	Cymbidium	1	<i>Cymbidium</i> hybrid unknown	Brian Dear
		2	<i>Cymbidium</i> Vogel's Magic 'Waikanae'	Jacqui & Claire Turner
52	Cattleya alliance	1	<i>Cattleya intermedia</i>	Bill Ferris
		2	<i>Rhyncolaeliocattleya</i> Haw Yuan Beauty	Andrea Robold
54	Vandaceous alliance	1	<i>Cleistomeria lanatum</i>	Jane Wright
		2	<i>Chiloschista exuperei</i>	Andrea Robold
57	One Pleurothallid	1	<i>Masdevallia</i> Copperwing	Jane Wright
		2	<i>Pleurothallis viduata</i>	Jane Wright
58	Australian/Australasian	1	<i>Sarcochilus</i> Dizzy Spring	Brian Dear
		2	<i>Dendrobium bracteosum</i>	Andrea Robold
59	Bulbophyllum	1	<i>Bulbophyllum picturatum</i>	Bill Ferris
60	Any other orchid	1	<i>Coelogyne</i> Unchained Melody	Paul Tyerman
		2	<i>Gongora chocoensis</i>	Andrea Robold
Champion Orchid			<i>Sarcochilus</i> Dizzy Spring	Brian Dear

**Spring Exhibition and Rose Show November 2024 – Orchid Results**

Because Bill Ferris was the only society member exhibitor in the orchid classes (no-one else had orchids in bloom!) he scooped the pool. Congratulations Bill, and thanks for waving the flag for orchids and the society.

**Terrestrial Workshop run by Karen Groeneveld on Sunday 12 January 2025**



Karen very kindly made her home available to demonstrate a technique for successfully repotting terrestrial orchids. Karen and Mike Pieloor made a very informative duo taking us through the physical steps of emptying pots, careful method of sieving the old soil and preparing new containers for planting.

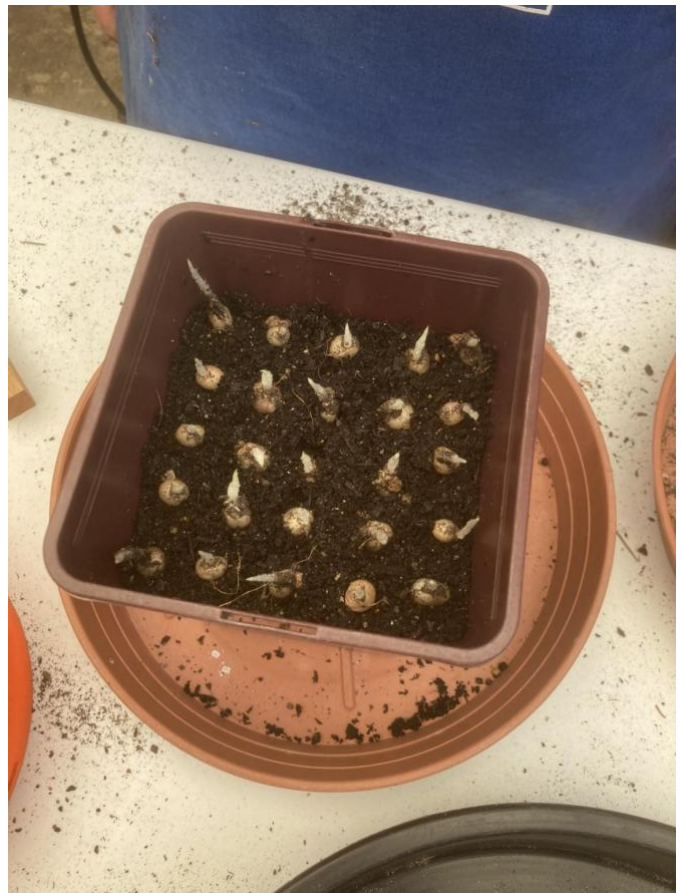
Suggestions were made regarding the potting mix to use, depth at which to plant, how to use a little supplementary dolomite, size of complementary bulbs and resulting growth.

Mike also touched on the symbiotic relationship between terrestrial bulbs and microorganisms.

Pictures show Karen looking for smaller bulbs which may have slid through the sieve. The second picture shows grouping of similar sized bulbs the growth of similar sized plants.

Participants then had the opportunity to pot up bulbs to take home.

Thanks again Karen and Mike!



**Notes from conservation group - a small but significant win**



These carefully positioned and distributed rocks at first glance may not seem much but represent a real win for our local orchids.



For those who may recognize the location these strategically placed rocks are the result of a meeting between members of staff of the ACT Environment Department, ACT Government Roads and several members of the Society's Conservation Group.

These rocks are to prevent access to 4WD which had begun using a particularly rich and special orchid site for an off-road driving circuit and in the process damaging a fragile orchid rich environment. The meeting allowed us to demonstrate both the unique orchid richness and the damage inflicted by this activity. The ACT Roads has supplied and arranged these rocks and we hope ensuring future damage is now avoided.

*Derek Corrigan*

### Orchid spotting on Black Mountain

In the November bulletin we presented pictures of 3 species of orchids that were spotted during the walk last October on Black Mountain expertly led by Ned Johnston and ably assisted by Derek Corrigan. There were actually many more species found on the walk, despite the very dry conditions, and it just shows what can be found when ably guided. We have therefore included a more complete list of orchids spotted during the walk which demonstrates the great diversity of terrestrial orchids found in the local area and the importance of Black Mountain as an orchid genetic resource. The photographs can also be used as a valuable resource for identifying orchids when exploring the fire trails on Black Mountain. Further assistance regarding species can be found at the Canberra Nature Map (CNM) Black Mountain orchid species URL, <https://canberra.naturemapr.org/locations/guide/3/3> .

Thanks to Ned and Derek assisting for a great day out. Photographs are courtesy Derek Corrigan.



*Caladenia congesta*



*Oligochaetochilus  
aciculiformis*



*Pterostylis nutans*



*Glossodia major*



*Caladenia carnea*



*Thelymitra pauciflora*