



# Milton - Ulladulla

## ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

Web Site: [www.miltonulladullaorchidsociety.weebly.com/https://www.facebook.com/miltonulladullaorchidsociety/](http://www.miltonulladullaorchidsociety.weebly.com/https://www.facebook.com/miltonulladullaorchidsociety/)

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### Messages:

#### 1] ROVING DAY—22nd May 2021

Thank you to Michelle, Bruce, Anne and Keith—we had a lovely time at your places. Food was smashing and the orchids we saw were stunning.

#### 2] THANK YOU to Lynne and Brian Phelan for an excellent talk this month. It is in this newsletter.

3] We wish to reduce waste, if you can bring your own cup/mug—this would help greatly.



#### 4] \*\*\*\*PLEASE RETURN ALL SHOW TROPHIES. \*\*\*\*

5] Remember, COVID procedures to be observed—safe distancing, stay home if unwell and wash your hands often. A.M. :)

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JUNE meeting—bring along your grow comp plant and your deflasked plant from last year. A.M.

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### MAY 2021

#### NEXT MEETING:

Monday, June 14 th, 2021

Speaker— Mitch Karnaghan .

WHERE:- Civic Centre Ulladulla [ main street].

There is parking available around the back. :)



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Plants are benched when the area is ready and please fill out your benching cards carefully.

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### MAY RAFFLE WINNERS

Gary McConnell 4, Rhonda Spry 3, Christopher Izard 3, Helen Douglas 3, Helen Thompson 3, Rod Thomas 2, June Hunter 2, Marie Martin 2, Don Hogan 2, Patricia Callaghan 2, Annette Neilsen 1, Gary Callaghan 1, Charlie Weir 1, A.M.Collins 1, Jo Church 1, Ian Smythe 1, Liz Cleaver 1, Fran Sheil 1, Trish SCOTT 1, Sandra Ellis 1, Anne Moody 1, Michael Wright 1, Sheila Gallant 1, Francoise Sikora 1, Diane Slye 1, Bob Harper 1, and Marilyn Higgins 1.

43 prizes.



### MAY GROW COMP. WINNERS

1ST Bob Harper

2ND Rhonda Spry

3RD Rod Thomas

Well done to all who brought theirs in.

FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK:

Hi everyone

This year's Roving Day brought out a beautiful sunny Autumn day and 25 members came along to enjoy it. We first met at the home of **Bruce and Michelle McIntosh**, and had a good snoop at their orchids, and some purchased some new plants for their collections. A welcome cuppa and light refreshments were enjoyed by all. We then moved to the Bawley Point home of **Keith and Anne Moody**, set on a stunning 3.5 acres of immaculately kept gardens. We all enjoyed a sumptuous BBQ lunch and a chance to sit in the sun and taking the opportunity to have a nice chat. Thank you to our hosts for making it a great day and thank you to all who came along.

Next meeting can we have reliable numbers of people wishing to travel to the St Ives Orchid Fair on 14<sup>th</sup> August please. This is needed to ascertain the size of the coach needed. Please give your names to the Treasurer.

Our own Winter Show is only a few weeks away so now is the time to prepare your orchids, so they look smich for the judges. A copy of the Show Schedule will appear on the website soon. There will be a few spare paper copies for those without a computer. Times for set up benching, judging, and opening times to the public are all on the Show Schedule, so please note them very carefully, as late entries will not be allowed.

Next meeting, we will welcome back **Mitch Karnaghan**, who will talk on the Upkeep and Care of Orchids. Mitch is always interesting and a very experienced orchid grower.

Look forward to seeing you all on 14<sup>th</sup> June.

Rod



## MILTON ULLADULLA ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

### PROGRAMME OF EVENTS 2021

VENUE FOR ALL MUOS ACTIVITIES - DOWNSTAIRS CIVIC CENTRE, ULLADULLA, unless otherwise stated

8TH February	General Meeting -	Speaker - Jim Cootes - Orchids of the Phillipines.
8th March	General Meeting	Speaker - Ron Boyd - Fertilizing
14th March	Presidents Meet & Greet	22 Lomandra Pl, Ulladulla. 11.00am - 3.00pm. Bring chair
12th April	General Meeting	Speakers George Birss & Mike Hitchcock. Orchid Supplies George & Mike. 'What's new in orchid growing'. Order
10th May	General Meeting	Brian & Lynne Phelan - 'Preparing plants for Show bench
22nd May	Roving Day	27 Jubilee Ave. Ulladulla then to 43 Voyager Cr. Bawley Pl BBQ lunch, bring chair
14th June	General Meeting	Speaker - Mitch Karnaghan
19th June	Bunnings Orchid Display -	Bunnings Store, Ulladulla
3rd/4th July	MUOS Winter Show	
10th July	Shoalhaven Orchid Society Winter Show	Bomaderry Community Centre, 19 Birriley St.
8th - 10th July	Eurobodalla Orchid Club - Winter Show	
12th July	General Meeting: - Novice Hour - Presentation of Winter Show Trophies.	Novices bring any 2+ plants for general discussion and assistance from members
17th - 18th July	Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Society - Spring Show	Batemans Bay Soldiers Club
9th August	General Meeting: Bric a Brac Auction	
28th - 29th August	Eurobodalla Orchid Club - Spring Show	
4th-5th September	Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Society Spring Show	Batemans Bay Soldiers Club
4th September	Shoalhaven Orchid Society - Spring Show	Bomaderry Community Centre, 19 Birriley St.
11th-12th September	MUOS Spring Show	
13th September	General Meeting: Speaker Gary Hodder 'Pollination of Dendrobium Orchids'	
11th October	AGM & General Meeting: Presentation of Trophies Spring Show	
16th October	MUOS Native Show: Presentation of Awards	
23rd October	Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Society - Native Orchid Show	Batemans Bay Soldiers Club
8th November	General Meeting: Anything Orchid Auction	
13th December	Christmas Party	

## MAY BENCHING AWARDS

### OPEN:

<b>Cymbidium Standard</b>	1st	2	J. Church
<b>Cymbidium Intermediate:</b>	1st	3	P. & G. Callaghan
<b>Cymbidium Min</b>	1st	4	L. Cleaver/T. Groube
<b>Cattleya to 70:</b>	1st	7	P. & G. Callaghan
<b>Cattleya over 70:</b>	1st	13	P. & G. Callaghan
<b>Native Hybrid:</b>	1st	23	J. Church
<b>Onc Alliance:</b>	1st	30	P. & G. Callaghan
<b>Miscellaneous:</b>	1st	38	L. Cleaver/T. Groube
<b>Species:</b>	1st	50	M. McIntosh
<b>Vanda :</b>	1st		
<b>Phalaenopsis:</b>	1st		
<b>Seedling:</b>	1st		

### INTERMEDIATE

<b>Cymbidium Intermediate</b>	1st	69	F. Sikora
<b>Cymbidium Mini</b>	1st	70	F. Sikora
<b>Cattleya to 70:</b>	1st	72	F. Sikora
<b>Cattleya over 70:</b>	1st	78	F. Sikora
<b>Native Hybrid:</b>	1st		
<b>Onc Alliance:</b>	1st	80	R. Thomas
<b>Species:</b>	1st	83	R. Thomas

### NOVICE:

<b>Cymbidium Intermediate:</b>	1st		
<b>Miscellaneous:</b>	1st	65	D. Slye
<b>Species:</b>	1st	66	F. Sheil

**FERN:** 1st 56 R. Thomas

**FOLIAGE :** 1st 63 D. Hogan

### Popular Vote:

**Open:** 1st 30 G. & P. Callaghan

**Intermediate:** tie 1st 72 & 78 F. Sikora

**Novice:** 1st 65 D. Slye

Well done to all who benched.

A lovely display of cattleyas and natives.

. :) A.M.



## PREPARING AND BENCHING ORCHIDS FOR THE SHOW.

### *Preparation.*

**Aspect** When you notice buds/inflorescences start to develop on your orchid try to keep the plant orientated in the same position. Most plants are phototropic (i.e. they orient themselves towards the light source) so if the light source keeps changing the flowers can become confused and may open in random directions rather than all facing the same way. The exception may be if you have a specimen plant with multiple inflorescences and you want them evenly spaced around the plant.

**Staking** For cymbidiums and other orchids with a long inflorescence this process should start long before the show. As soon as you see a spike emerge insert a stake nearby. As the inflorescence develops, progressively move the ties along the stake so the raceme grows where you want it to. The stake should be as unobtrusive as possible. Avoid ugly 'tomato stakes'. Use the thinnest stake possible to do the job. Ties or clips should not be too obvious and tops of stakes projecting above the last tie should be removed. Temporary stakes used to support the plant during transport to the show should be removed after benching. It's no good to try to tie up an inflorescence that has been 'doing its own thing' on the day before the show. If you don't snap the spike the flowers will all be upside down or twisted. Start your staking early.

Orchids with pendulous spikes may not need staking but they may need 'guidance' to position themselves advantageously for display. Some judicious manipulation of leaves and spikes can ensure that the maximum number of flowers is visible to the judges.

**Grooming** Make sure your pots and plants are clean and free from pests and diseases. Old backbulbs and dead bracts should be removed, and leaves wiped clean of dust and fertiliser residue. Cut off any black leaf tips. The top of the media can be tidied using a fresh layer of material, preferably bark.

**Clean the pot.** If it is not possible to clean the pot you can 'double pot' it by putting it inside another clean pot of the same size or just slightly larger. Remember that if more than one plant is on a mount or in a pot the grower must nominate which plant is being exhibited as only one exhibit can be judged.

### *Transporting Orchid to Shows*

If an orchid arrives at a show with the inflorescence broken or a flower knocked off or the flowers are bruised and battered and a hastily made sign saying 'Damaged in Transit' is displayed, it doesn't have much chance of being judged the Grand Champion. Preparing your plants for the car trip is just as important as preparing them for the show bench.

### *Staging/ Benching*

Staging is another name for benching your orchid. It's about giving your plant its best chance in the judging process and also helping to make the benching marshal's job as easy as possible.

Your plant needs to be self-supporting when it is benched, and it needs to be able to be moved by the benching marshal. That is, you can't bring your orchid in, put it on the bench and then arrange some prop to hold the flower spike up which will fall if the plant is moved.

Pendulous plants usually don't need staking, but they do need to be raised so their racemes are above the bench – use an upturned pot, stand, etc. Make sure the combination of orchid and support are stable and moveable.

Every plant benched should have its name **clearly** visible on a benching card with the owner's name clearly printed on the reverse. Make sure that the correct name is displayed. When you bench your plant decide which is its best side and put that side facing the front with the benching card in front of it. That way, if the benching marshal must move your plant s/he will know which side you want the judges to look at.

Ensure the pot/plant is self-supporting and **stable**. It is your responsibility to bench a plant that can be moved as required by the marshals so it must be stable. If the pot is unable to hold the plant securely

then use a heavier pot just large enough to contain the original pot and pack tightly around the pot so that it fits snugly inside the outer pot. The outer pot should be as unobtrusive as possible; you want the orchid to be the centre of attention, not the pot.

- Similarly, it is your responsibility to provide suitable structures to display mounted or hanging plants to their best advantage. If a plant has a pendulous habit, then you will need to have a framework from which to suspend it. Again, it needs to be able to be moved around by the marshals if required.

Top heavy plants can be made stable by double potting into a larger pot, packing in the space between with damp newspaper. Brian has a stack of these already made up as he grows most of his plants in tiny pots in trays and they rarely stand up by themselves.

You can also make a pot holder out of a larger pot if the plant is unstable. Cut a circle out of the bottom out of the larger pot so the rim of the smaller one fits inside but doesn't fall through the upturned holder pot.

(See photo)

Small orchids often benefit from being raised so the judges can see them better. VERY small orchid flowers may need a magnifying glass so the visiting members of the public can appreciate them!

Brian grows a lot of his plants hooked onto wire mesh along the walls of the glasshouse. These can be similarly displayed on the bench using a simple home-made stand which has a vertical piece of timber through which two holes have been drilled about 4mm apart and a cable tie firmly looped through. The twin hook pot holder will hook through the tie allowing the plant to hang as it has been growing. Or you can use a piece of reinforcing mesh bent into a V-shape.

(I think) Species should be presented how they grow so if it has a natural arching spike it shouldn't be staked straight up. (That's my opinion though it isn't a judging rule.) I have seen species cymbidiums staked upright but I think they look much better if they can arch gracefully as they do naturally.

You can use decorative pots but use a pot that doesn't overwhelm the orchid. The orchid should catch the judge's eyes, not the pot.

### Lynne Phelan



### ROVING DAY PICTURES

### PAGE 6



## Society Polo Shirts

Society Polo Shirts can be ordered from the Secretary.

These are coloured purple with a white logo and are available in the following sizes.

Ladies 8-24

Mens to 5xL

**See the Secretary if interested in one.**

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### **WISH LIST**

**Bob Harper**—Sarc. George Coulthorpe X Bessie

**Sam Burton**—yellow Psychopsis

**Michelle McIntosh**— Oncidium cheirophorum.

**Liz Karacsonyi**— Dock. Aust. Ginger

**Dianne Slye**—[Zygoneria Adelaide Meadows X Zygopabista Beenak Jester] X Zygote Arthur Elle 'Essendon' AM-AD/AOC

**Anne-Marie Collins**- Ming fern, foxtail fern, aspidistra [variegated and normal] [ for floral art ], also an alba stanhopea or any Oncid. Twinkles or a psychopsis [ any variety].

Plus bamboo, both clumping and non-clumping, and a small Christmas bush [ Australian native] .

**Rod Thomas**—Den. Enobi Purple 'splash'

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### **FOR SALE**

Do you have an orchid to sell or orchid related item.

Send in the details to Anne-Marie and it will go here. :)

Contact Michelle McIntosh—she has Dendrobium speciosum divisions for sale —well named and very well grown.

" For those wanting Bob Bishops bark please phone John Harriman on 44439462 - . John will be bringing bags to the meetings each month or you can collect from his home - please phone and ask him if you require bags brought to the meeting .

## **TIPS for June [Winter].**

Winter is upon us and we need to be aware that orchids, mostly don't like cold weather.

Frosts cause cellular damage, which can devastate an orchid quickly [ we notice this first] or



more slowly [ they seem alright and slowly darken and die] over time.

Placing your orchids out of potential frost sites is most important.

There are numerous shade clothes available that help, plus even some applications which give the orchid added strength to cope with the cold.



Now is the time to take off summer extra shade cloth, to give the orchids the best chance of the most sunshine they need

Be aware, bugs are still hungering after your spikes and buds.

Stay warm, stay vigilant, enjoy your hobby. :) A.M.

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### **THANK YOU**

I am currently looking for cheap or free fruit trees, vegetable and herb seedlings and cuttings—anything that produces edible products.

Also things which can be recycled to make off the ground garden beds.

I am starting a garden plot, at my bush fire destroyed block of land, at Moruya.

I would appreciate your gifts or cheap items.

Thank you A.M.

We stock an extensive product range for all your orchid needs.

Take advantage of your V.I.P. Customer Pricing.

Come in and visit us at 21 Bellevue Street, South Nowra or ring 44232359



5% discount—show your card.



**Get Well Wishes**

to any club member recovering from treatment, surgery or sickness . :)

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**The committee** would like to thank those generous members that provide the goodies for afternoon tea and also the members who bring in plants etc. for our monthly raffles. Also we thank the people who help set up and clean up the hall as with many hands it doesn't take very long.

**-REMEMBER -**  
Please do not water your plants before benching them, at our meetings or shows, as it makes quite a mess. Thank you. :)



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**Disclaimer:**  
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**Did you know?**  
If you receive your newsletter by email, we are now sending to you [ interesting reading] newsletters sent by other clubs that the Secretary receives.  
If you don't want this to happen, please let Anne-Marie know by email                Thanks A.M.  
[ arimaneeorchids2020@gmail.com ].