ISSUE 606 AUGUST 2021

PATRON lan Nelson

PRESIDENT Guy Cantor

VICE PRESIDENTS Dylan Morrissey Angie Sulfaro

SECRETARY Tinka Riddell tinkariddell@yahoo. com.au 9940 0797

TREASURER Position Vacant

COMMITTEE
Kathleen Nelson
Li Shan Fan
Mark Asbury
Ros Mathews
Penny Johnson
Cary Polis

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO – The Secretary, MWOS Inc., 3 Kristine Place, Mona Vale, NSW 2103

NEXT MEMBER'S MEETING TBA at the Cromer Community Centre.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING TBA September 2021 at Angie's house at 7.30pm

# MANLY WARRINGAH ORCHID SOCIETY INC.



www.orchidsociety.com.au

## President's Message

I hope everyone is staying safe and well in these difficult times. At least with the arrival of spring there is hopefully a good flowering season to look forward to in the coming months. My native orchids are throwing a lot of spikes particularly the Sarcochilus and most Dendrobiums.

What I miss most is catching up for a chat about our plants and also being able to head bush with my mates to what's happening in the wild. Let's hope this is over soon.

At least we can share photos, here is a Sarcochilus falcatus



### MEMBERSHIP FEES.

The Committee has decided to waive the annual membership fees for 2021/22 due to ongoing Covid concerns and lockdowns. Members who have already paid will have their fees credited for 2022/23. Members who have their Bulletin posted are requested to pay \$10 postage. The account details are BSB062155 A/c 00906498.

#### **DIARY DATES 2021**

September 16,17,18 Spring Show - CANCELLED

September 23 AGM and Member's Meeting – CANCELLED

October 28 Member's Meeting

November 14 Auction

November 25 Member's Meeting December 5 Christmas Party December 16 Member's Meeting

#### **BARK ORDER**

The bark order has been put on hold for the time being due to Covid. I will keep you posted.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE - SALES TABLE**

Members please note that the sales table will only operate before the meeting and then close. There will be no sales during the supper break

#### Cary's Shadehouse

I suppose that we are all taking advantage of the lockdown to attend to things at home that we normally don't get around to doing. Jill and I have been very busy in the garden pulling things out, pruning, revamping garden beds, taking masses of overgrown and unwanted vegetation to the tip amongst other things. Of course the orchids have had their fair share of attention too. I have tackled some massive specimen plants that were well overdue for dividing. You know the type that I mean: the ones that have been in the too hard basket for various reasons the main one being what the hell do your do with all the extra plants that you finish up with? There are no shows or meetings that one can sell plants at. So bench space is at a premium when it would be fair to say that things were already overcrowded to begin with. One plant I just did was a Maxillaria triloris syn. luteograndiflora that turned into 9 plants 3 of which could still be regarded as specimen plants. Apart from the repotting I am also taking a different approach to feeding. I'm still using a slow release fertiliser when repotting but have decided to dispense with conventional liquid feeding for now as I suspect that my 100L tank that I normally feed with might be contributing to fungal problems in my hothouse. I recently acquired a motorised sprayer (Swagman) and it is ideal for foliar feeding. It is a lot less trouble and very quick and easy to do. However one thing I have noticed is that the fertiliser (Powerfeed) tends to stain white flowers slightly so I might try an inorganic (Peters XL) and see what happens with that. Like all of you I have many plants coming into bloom right now, especially Dockrillias, Sarcochilus falcatus and Dendrobium melaleucaphyllums amongst the natives. Thankfully I haven't seen any Dendrobium beetles yet with this burst of warm weather. Even if you're not motivated to actually work on your plants I think it's important to just walk past your benches and look and take notice of things, pull a weed out here or there, see what's coming into bud etc. Even doing little things like that can make a big difference. It's important to keep your finger on the pulse. The reality is that you have no excuse now. Happy growing.

Dendrochilum pulcherrmum – grown by Angie



Dendrobium grown by Emilia





Grown by Gloria

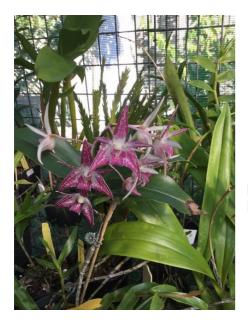




Cym. Harbor City x Foxfire Orange 'Crush'



Maxillaria skunkeana 'Kingston' This plant has been flowering for five months.



Den Starsheen x Red River





Angraecum eburneum Six spikes this year. Very top heavy and has quite a lean.



Had a slippery visitor this morning. It was laying on top of the fence and I had to look twice as at first it was stretched out with its head erect about 20cm tall and two little dark eyes. It saw me and turned around and slid off to visit the neighbours. Maybe a green tree snake? Looked about two metres long, and skinny.