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ISSUE 623 JANUARY  
2023

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Ian Nelson

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Cary Polis

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2. Kathleen Nelson

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Ros Mathews  
Penny Johnson  
Tricia Hamilton

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

**NEXT MEMBER'S  
MEETING 19<sup>th</sup>  
January 2023 at the  
Cromer Community  
Centre @ 8pm.**

**NEXT COMMITTEE  
MEETING – Thursday  
2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023 @  
7.30pm. Venue TBA**

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Email address for  
problems and cultural  
advice -  
whatstheproblem.mwos  
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# MANLY WARRINGAH ORCHID SOCIETY INC.



[www.orchidsociety.com.au](http://www.orchidsociety.com.au)

## *HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL*

President's Report:

We had a very good attendance and benching at our December meeting to cap off a very successful year for MWOS. The selection of plants benched was excellent once again, with a great array of *Laelia purpurata* which required 2 tables there were so many. Once again the Novice benching was very impressive and this is a healthy sign for the future of the Society. After the supper break we had a description/discussion on various plants of interest. Although quite an informal way of going about things, I find this format very useful because it really goes to the core of why orchid societies exist and that is so that likeminded people can get together and exchange ideas and discuss their interests. I hope that you all enjoyed Christmas and the New Year. See you at the January meeting.

**SUPPER ROSTER** Thank you to last month's volunteers and helpers for your contribution. The response to the supper roster for this year was very good and thank you in advance to those members. This month our volunteers are Ben Saler and Nicolette Farnham to bring in something for the supper table and could you also please give Penny a hand to clear up afterwards as well.

**GUEST SPEAKER:** There is no Guest Speaker this month so we will have a cultural session. You are welcome to bring in problem plants for the more experienced growers to give advice on.

### **AUCTION SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

Time to start to have a look around your shade houses and see if you have any interesting plants to put in our auction. Grower's sheets will be sent out to our regular sellers by the end of January and will need to be returned by Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February. Please contact Tinka for a grower's sheet if you are not a regular seller and wish to participate.

## DIARY DATES FOR 2023

19<sup>th</sup> January Members Meeting (26<sup>th</sup> is Australia Day)

23<sup>rd</sup> February Members Meeting

23<sup>rd</sup> March Members Meeting

16<sup>th</sup> April Auction

20<sup>th</sup> April Members Meeting (hall closed for maintenance on 27<sup>th</sup>)

25<sup>th</sup> May Members Meeting.

26-28 May Orchids Out West, Hawkesbury Show Ground.

16-18 June Winter Show@Belrose Super Centre

22<sup>nd</sup> June Members Meeting

24-25 Mingara Orchid Fair

### DECEMBER BENCHING POINT SCORE 2022

#### OPEN DIVISION

##### 1. Sarcophilus Hybrid

0 Plant

##### 2. Australian Native Hybrid

1 Plant

1. Den. Frankston 'Starry Night'

R. Blaxland

##### 3. Australasian

4 Plants

1. Den. Nancy Fairfax

A. Sulfaro

2. Den. Nancy Fairfax

A. Sulfaro

3. Den. Nancy Fairfax

A. Sulfaro

##### 4. Dockrillia Hybrid

0 Plants

##### 5. Laeliinae Hybrid (Exhibition) >120mm

1 Plant

1. C. Lynn Spencer 'Pearl'

G&ACushway

##### 6. Laeliinae Hybrid (Exhibition) <120mm

0 Plants

##### 7. Laeliinae Hybrid (Multifloral/Novelty)

0 Plant

##### 7A. Laeliinae (Novelty Type Hybrid)

4 Plants

1. Blc. Marg Pufman

F&M Lee

2. Pot. Roy's Magic 'Janet'

R. Blaxland

3. C. Intercepts 'Mons'

R. Blaxland

##### 8. Laeliinae Miniature

1 Plant

1. Ctna. Splash of Port 'Yellow Face'

A. Sulfaro

##### 8A. Laeliinae Epidendrum

7 Plants

1. Epi. Plum Pretty

A. Sulfaro

2. Epi. unknown

T. Riddell

3. Epi. Magenta x Royale

C. Polis

##### 9. Cymbidium Standard

0 Plant

##### 10. Cymbidium Intermediate

0 Plants

##### 11. Cymbidium Miniature

0 Plant

##### 12. Dendrobium

6 Plants

1. Den. Gatton Sunray

P. Christie

2. Den. Roongkamol Vejvarut

A. Sulfaro

3. Den. Mingle's Sapphire 'Royale'

T. Riddell

##### 13. Oncidiinae 30mm and less

3 Plants

1. Onc. Splinter

G&ACushway

2. Onc. Splinter

G&ACushway

3. Onc. Sharry Baby

I. Tanner

##### 14. Oncidiinae 30mm - 60mm

6 Plants

1. Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'

A. Sulfaro

2. Wils. Pacific Passage 'Handsome'

T. Riddell

3. Wils. Gay Spice 'Electric Orange'

R. Blaxland

##### 15. Oncidiinae 60mm and above

6 Plants

1. Brassia Rex

R. Blaxland

2. Mtps. Breathless 'Brilliant'

G&ACushway

3. Brassia Rex

T. Riddell

##### 16. Paphiopedilum Exhibition

1 Plant

1. Paph. Quirola

A. Sulfaro

##### 17. Paphiopedilum Novelty

0 Plants

##### 18. Phalaenopsis Exhibition

4 Plants

1. Phal. unknown

A. Sulfaro

2. Phal. Tai Lin Queen

G&ACushway

2. Phal. Taida Magic

G&ACushway

##### 19. Phalaenopsis Novelty

5 Plants

1. Phal. unknown

A. Sulfaro

2. Phal. Dragon's Dazzler

G&ACushway

3. Phal. unknown

A. Sulfaro

##### 19A. Phalaenopsis Miniature

1. Dtps. Liu's Berry 'Trinity'

2. Dtps. Liu's Berry 'Trinity'

3. Dtps. Yu Pin Natsume 'Minhi'

##### 20. Vandaceous >51mm

##### 21. Vandaceous/Ascocendas

1. Vanda Marianne

2. Ascda. Blue Boy 'Reno'

##### 22. Other Orchid Hybrid

1. Lyc. Norika Takaki

2. Bulbo. (jacobsenii x frostii)

3. Zygo. Redvale

##### 4 Plants

G&ACushway

A&GCushway

A&GCushway

##### 0 Plants

##### 2 Plants

R. Blaxland

A. Sulfaro

##### 8 Plants

F&M Lee

C. Polis

T. Riddell

#### SPECIES

##### 38. Sarcophilus Species

1. Sarco. roseus

##### 39. Australian Epiphyte Species

1. Cym. madidum

2. Cadetia taylorii

3. Den. fleckerii

##### 40. Australasian Epiphyte Species

1. Den. polysema 'Yvonne'

3. Den. mohlianum

##### 41. Dockrillia

1. Den. wassellii

2. Dock. rigida

3. Dock. cucumerinum

##### 42. Australasian Terrestrial

##### 43. Laeliinae Alliance (cattleya & laelia)

1. Cat. gigas

2. Laelia tenebrosa 'Nicci'

3. Cat. maxima

##### 43A. Laelia purpurata

1. Laelia purpurata v. carnea

2. Laelia purpurata v. striata

3. Laelia purpurata v. carnea delicata x Laelia purpurata roxo v. videta 'Aranda'

##### 44. Laeliinae Alliance

1. Epi. pentosis

2. Bakeria melamocaulon

3. Bakeria spectabilis 'Bonza'

3. Epi. prismatocarpa

##### 45. Oncidiinae Alliance Species

1. Brassia verrucosa

2. Odont. citrosimum

3. Onc. flexuosum

##### 46. Other Species 'The Americas'

1. Bifrenaria verboonenii

2. Max. nasuta

3. Lycaste aromatic

##### 47. Dendrobium Species

1. Den. suavissimum

2. Den. hercoglossum

3. Den. chrysotoxum

##### 1 Plant

G. Cantor

##### 3 Plants

C. Polis

T. Riddell

T. Agrela

##### 2 Plants

A. Sulfaro

G. Cantor

##### 4 Plants

T. Riddell

C. Polis

G. Cantor

##### 0 Plant

##### 10 Plants

P. McDonough

A. Sulfaro

P. McDonough

##### 12 Plants

G. Cantor

C. Polis

G&ACushway

##### 7 Plants

F&M Lee

G. Cantor

C. Polis

A. Sulfaro

##### 10 Plants

A. Sulfaro

P. McDonough

C. Polis

##### 14 Plants

P. McDonough

G. Cantor

P. McDonough

##### 9 Plants

P. McDonough

G. Cantor

I. Tanner

**48. Paphiopedilum Species**

1. Paph. haynaldianum

**49. Phalaenopsis Species**

1. Phal. cornu-cervi 'Red'
2. Phal. tetrapsis
3. Phal. cornu-cervi 'Red'

**50. Vandaceous species**

1. Ang. magdalenae
2. V. tricolor
3. Aerides houlettiana

**51. Dendrochilum Species**

1. Ddc. ?? Royale Gold
2. Ddc. latifolium
3. Ddc. latifolium v. latifolium

**52. Other Species 'Asia & Rest of World'**

1. Coel. usitana
2. Coel. marmonata
3. Eria rhyncostyloides

**53. Miniature max. 150mm****54. Miniature Species min. 150mm**

1. Cadetia taylori
2. Dryadella edwardii

**55. First Flowering Species****56. First Flowering Seedling Hybrid**

1. Paph. Alma Gevaert 'HR' x (Hsinying Citron x Tsinying Dress)

**1 Plant**

P.McDonough

**3 Plants**

C. Polis  
G. Cantor  
C. Polis

**12 Plants**

A. Sulfaro  
I. Tanner  
C. Polis

**3 Plants**

A. Sulfaro  
P.McDonough  
T. Riddell

**12 Plants**

G. Cantor  
T. Riddell  
T. Riddell

**0 Plant****2 Plants**

C. Polis  
T. Riddell

**0 Plant****1 Plant**

G&amp;ACushway



Species & Specimen of Evening – Angraecum magdalenae – grown by Angie Sulfaro

**NOVICE****23. Australasian Species****24. Laeliinae**

1. Encyclia
2. Laelia purpurata
3. Encyclia hanburyi

**25. Oncidiinae Species**

1. Brassia verrucosa
2. Brassia verrucosa
3. Brassia verrucosa

**26. Any other Species of Americas**

1. Maxillaria tenuifolia
2. Lycaste aromatic
3. Maxillaria tenuifolia

**27. Species Rest of the World**

1. Cym. bicolor
2. Coel. chloroptera

**28. Australasian Hybrids****29. Cymbidium Standard****30. Cymbidium Intermediate & Miniature****31. Paphiopedilum Hybrid**

1. Den.unknown

**33. Laeliinae Hybrid**

1. Epi. Hildos 'Gold Valley'

**34. Oncidiinae Allied Intergenerics Hybrid**

1. Onc. Heaven Scent
2. Miltonia unknown
3. Onc. unknown

**35. Hybrid of Americas All Others****36. Other Orchid Hybrid**

1. Phal. unknown
2. Phal unknown
3. Phal. unknown

**0 Plant****3 Plants**

R. Mathews  
R. Mathews  
N. Macri

**4 Plants**

N. Macri  
K. Nelson  
N. Macri

**4 Plants**

N. Macri  
K. Nelson

G.Wassermeyer

**2 Plants**

A. Evans  
N. Macri

**0 Plants****0 Plant****0 Plant****1 Plant**

S. Anderson

**1 Plant**

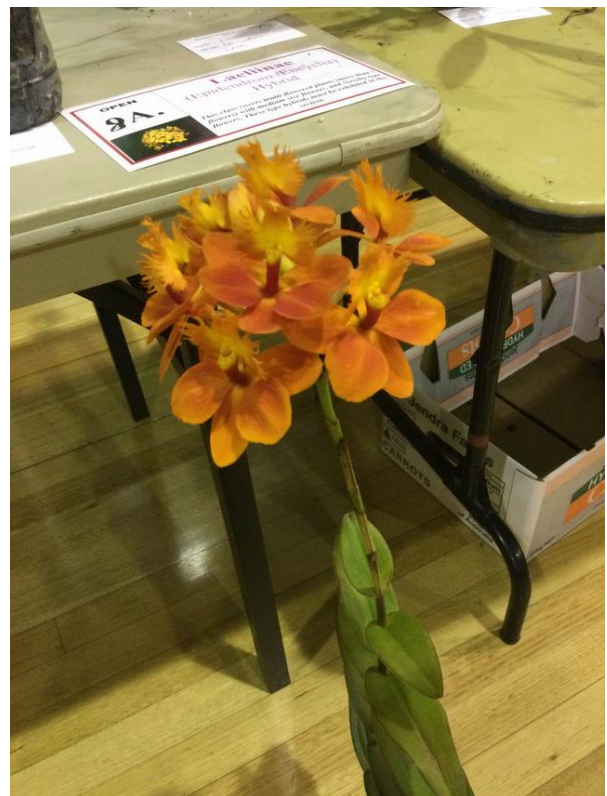
E. Henwood

**3 Plants**

G.Wassermeyer  
R. Mathews  
N. Macri

**0 Plant****7 Plants**

A. Evans  
N. Macri  
T. Hamilton



Hybrid of Evening – Epidendrum Plum Pretty Grown by Angie Sulfaro.



Novice of Evening – *Cymbidium bicolor* –  
grown by Anne Evans

#### Ramble:

I attended the NSOS January 4<sup>th</sup> meeting and I had been invited to give a small informal talk on a subject of my choosing. Nick Gill was the other presenter, with the members splitting into two groups and swapping to the other speaker halfway through. I did not decide upon a topic until a day or two before. Anyway, I decided to talk about the different ways that one can grow their plants. So I presented examples of plants growing in different situations. Luckily I had examples of the same species growing 3 different ways eg on a mount, in a pot and on the side of a mesh pot.

This subject goes to the heart of our hobby. Firstly, we should always be very mindful of our growing situation ie no matter what we have for our growing area, it is different and indeed unique to what every other grower has. So, what I'm alluding to is, that we should always be very aware that what might work for someone else at their place will not necessarily work at ours. These things need to be weighed up and analysed when making a decision. Of course there's nothing that compares to "the School of Practical Experience". This is the institution where if you don't heed the lessons that it gives you, they keep coming back until you learn them. That is to say that we should not hesitate to try new things as long as it is based on sound reasoning ie if you want to do something you should have a good reason for doing it.

Experimenting can be very fruitful but one needs to be careful with precious plants. It is much easier when one has just divided a specimen plant into a lot of pieces and they can be tried in different situations,

but even this can have its pitfalls. Some of you may remember a few years ago I dismembered a very large plant of *Ceratostylis rubra* as a demonstration at one of our meetings, so I thought I'd try the pieces a few different ways like in a dish etc. Do you know that I lost every piece except the one that I put on a mount which was how the plant was growing in the first place! Even that piece took a long time to recover. Maybe I did it at the wrong time in the plant's seasonal cycle.

My repotting is still going along in fits and starts but I am making progress although slow. With the extra feeding I'm doing the weed situation has exploded and I'm forever pulling weeds when I do the walkpast. The jobs just keep piling up, but that's one of the reasons we do things like this isn't it? To stay busy, occupied and stimulated. Happy growing.  
Cary Polis.



Some of the *Laelia purpuratas* benched.

## How I grow *Laelia purpurata*

My wife and I live on the North Shore of Sydney Australia where the temperature varies from zero in winter to 40°C+ in summer. I usually start seedlings in my bush house which is north facing with 50% green knitted shade cloth. They stay here until they are in 100-125 mm pots and then they move outside usually in April or early May to gradually get used to stronger sunlight so they will be acclimatised to it when the next summer comes. When they are outside they are in full sun all year round, I believe that this increases flower count and actually promotes multiple new growths which means you can get to a specimen plant within 4-5 years.

I replot the following year or as needed. In the past the potting mix I used, was orchid Care Services 'Miscellaneous Mix'. This is a mix of treated and untreated bark *Pinus radiata* 6-15mm in size, sel-grit (limestone 2-5mm), canunda shells and gravel developed especially by Orchid Care Services for the de-flasking of seedlings, and the mix is ready to use direct from the bag. However, over the past 3 years I have changes to a mix of my own making, and it seems to be equally good. I mix 2 parts fine bark, 2 parts medium bark and 1 part Canna clay balls. I add small stones to the top of the mix for decoration and water retention and help insulate the roots.

I use Osmocote® Pro Low Phosphorous 8-9 month 16 + 3.9 + 9.1 + 1.8 Mg + TE slow release prills at the start of each growing season, October, and water and fertilize weekly with Peters Excel Cal Mag Hi-K (FINISHER) 12 + 2.2 + 16.6 at the rate of 1.5g/litre water. As the summer heat increases they get watered 2-3 times a week and if really hot an extra light watering after the sun has gone down to allow the plant to retain some water overnight.

**Pests:** Slugs, are probably the only pest to worry them, and only when in flower. So kill them off with Slugout® while the buds are still in the sheaths.

### Flowering:

Watch the sheaths in November for new flowers, and add stakes as required. The sheaths will be there for months but when the flowers come that will emerge in a rush. I usually check each day then sprinkle the plant with Slugout® and bring in under cover.

A word of warning, do NOT touch fresh growths and emerging flowers in the morning, allow to harden during the day and stake up just after the heat of the day has gone. Too soon and they will be in your hand.

*Laelia purpurata* a magnificent plant, and easy grower if given the right conditions.

### *Laelia purpurata* 'Louanne'

I purchased this plant as a back-cut from David Banks in early 2004 and repotted into a 125 mm pot in April 2004. It is an Alba form, pure white with only yellow in the throat. In the first 3 years I broke up the plant after successfully flowering and gave a couple of pieces to two of my good mates Mick Korzenowski and Cary Polis whom I have been bush walking in Queensland for the last 17 years. I then decided to 'grow it on' as where I grow my *Laelia purpurata* they get multiple growths and can grow into a specimen quite quickly. In January 2011 it was in a 200 mm Port Pot (squat) and in late December 2011, after flowering with 40 flowers, it was repotted into a 250 mm Port Pot. This remained in that pot with flowerings of around 60 each year until 2014 when I took it to Ku-Ring-Gai Orchid Society's Christmas Party as it had 94 flowers and received a cultural award ACM/OSNSW-AOC.

After this it was re-potted in January 2015 when I cut off approximately ½ the roots in height and potted the plant into a 406 mm Nylex garden sieve, (basically a shallow pot only 90mm deep which I have had great success with my *Dendrobium speciosum*), I was tempted to see if I could get 100 flowers, a tall order. To say it thrived would be an understatement but alas no 100 flowers that year, however there is always an upside as the plant was preparing for 2016 as with good rains and a 'relative' warm winter I had new growths appearing everywhere. Then in October the sheaths started to appear and every week my hopes were raised until the buds emerged, and I started to count. WOW 130 flowers on 30 inflorescences!

The downside to all this was that I now could not get the plant out of the house and probably not into the car as it was now 100cm to 110cm in diameter and also weighs 23 kg (51 lbs). No wonder I have had to visit the chiropractor lately as I have 2 plants of similar size of *Laelia purpurata* 'Lorraine' AM/OSNSW-AOC

Bill Dobson



Royal North Shore Hospital



*Laelia purpurata* 'Lorraine'

*Laelia purpurata* 'Louanne'



*Laelia purpurata* 'Lily Grace'