
ISSUE 650 April 2025

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NEXT MEMBER'S
MEETING
24th April 2025 at the
Cromer Community
Centre @ 8pm
(benching from 7:30).

NEXT COMMITTEE
MEETING – Thursday
1st May 2025. Venue
to be confirmed.

Email address for
problems and cultural
advice OR to submit a
photo/description for
The In-Betweeners:
[whatstheproblem.mwos
@gmail.com](mailto:whatstheproblem.mwos@gmail.com)

MANLY WARRINGAH ORCHID SOCIETY INC.



www.orchidsociety.com.au

President's Report

Last month we had another brilliant benching, then we were treated to a fantastic talk by David Hemmings on how he grows his native plants. It was an absolute eye opener about how high his level of self-discipline is, and it certainly shows with the results that he constantly achieves.

This month we will be hosting another expert in his field, Seong Tay, who will be giving us a talk on *Paphiopedilums* and how he grows them.

I want to thank those of you who came to the auction and helped to make it the huge success that it was. It is always a massive, frantic day and I'm glad to say that it went pretty smoothly except for one small hitch, which is not too bad when one considers what we were faced with. It was our most successful auction ever, with a very high level of quality with the lots that were on offer. It only enhances the reputation of this event. No one puts on an auction like MWOS. See you at the April meeting.

Coming This Month

Supper Volunteers for 24th April:

Tricia Hamilton and Gloria Cushway



Urgent! A second May supper volunteer is still needed! Please let Tinka or Anne know if interested via email. Besides bringing savory and/or sweet treats, a voluntary hand setting up or cleaning up the tables at the end of the meetings are also greatly appreciated! Thank you.

24th April Guest Speaker:

Multi-award winning Mr Seong Tay

Growing *Paphiopedilum*:

From Prudence to Perfection!



MARCH 2025 BENCHING POINT SCORE

Total plants benched:156

OPEN DIVISION

- 1. Sarcophilus Hybrid** 0 Plants
2. Australian Native Hybrid 1 Plant
1. *Den. Colonial Surprise* R.G.Blaxland
3. Australasian 1 Plant
1. *Den.alexandrae* x *Den.pacificum* 'first one' T. Riddell
4. Dockrillia Hybrid 0 Plants
5. Laeliinae Hybrid (Exhibition) >120mm 1 Plant
1. *Rsc. Adelaide Queen* G. & A.Cushway
2. *Rlc. Songwae Gold #2* C. Polis
3. *Rlc. Bryce Canyon Spendeferous* S. Torrisi
6. Laeliinae Hybrid (Exhibition) <120mm 2 Plants
1. *Rlc. Pink Spice* G. & A.Cushway
2. *Rlc. Pink Spice* G. & A.Cushway
7. Laeliinae Hybrid (Multifloral/Novelty) 3 Plants
1. *Lc. Angel Heart 'Sumi'* G. & A.Cushway
2. *Lc. Angel Heart 'Sumi'* G. & A.Cushway
7A. Laeliinae (Novelty Type Hybrid) 2 Plants
1. *Pot. Lisa Taylor Gallis 'nora'* G. & A.Cushway
2. *Kalua Sunset 'Hawaii'* S. Torrisi
8. Laeliinae Miniature 2 Plants
1. *Vkt. Barrel of Spirit 'Becky'* G. & A.Cushway
2. *Bc. Island Charm* x *Sc. Cherry Bee* G. & A.Cushway
8A.Laeliinae Epidendrum 1 Plant
1. *Prosthechea Edith Arakawa* M. Asbury
9. Cymbidium Standard 0 Plants
10. Cymbidium Intermediate 0 Plants
11. Cymbidium Miniature 0 Plants
12.Dendrobium 5 Plants
1. *Den. Cassiope* R.G.Blaxland
2. *Den. Cassiope* R.G.Blaxland
3. *Den. Hamana Lake 'Prism'* R.G.Blaxland
13. Oncidiinae 30mm and less 2 Plants
1. *Howeara Mary Eliza* M. Asbury
2. *Botcdm. Possum Wolf 'Red Cascade'* M. Asbury
14. Oncidiiae 30mm - 60mm 3 Plants
1. *Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'* I. Luke
2. *Brdsdn Fly Away 'Miami'* R.G.Blaxland
3. *Onc. Sharry Baby* N. Macri
15. Oncidiiae 60mm and above 2 Plants
1. *Miltoniopsis Lillian Nakamoto 'Tanto'* I. Luke
2. *Milt. Spectabilis* N. Macri
16. Paphiopedilum Exhibition 0 Plants
17A. Paphiopedilum Novelty 0 Plants
17. Cyripedioideae (Paphs and Prags) 4 Plants
1. *Paph Fumi's Delight* x *Delenatii* I. Luke
2. *Phrag. Schroederiae* C. Polis
3. *Phrag. Hanne Popow* I. Luke
18. Phalaenopsis Exhibition 1Plant
1. *Phal. unknown* N. Macri
19. Phalaenopsis Novelty 3 Plants
1. *Phal. unknown* C. Polis
2. *Phal. DeeJay Soul* C. Polis
3. *Phal. unknown* R. Matthews
19A. Phalaenopsis Miniature 1 Plant
1. *Phal. Spica* C. Polis
20. Vandaceous >51mm 2 Plants
1. *Vanda Susan Ong Ah Mooi* N. Macri
2. *Vanda Somski Blue Classic* x *V.Gordon Dillon* R. G. Blaxland
21.Vandaceous/Ascocendas 2 Plants
1. *Ascda. Fuchs Sunset* T. Riddell
2. *Neostylis Lou Sneary* M. Asbury
22. Other Orchid Hybrid 4 Plants
1. *Coel. Bird in Flight* C. Polis
2. *Zygo. Jumpin Jack* R.G. Blaxland
3. *Stenoglottis Venus* M. Asbury
SPECIES
38. Sarcophilus Species 0 Plants
39. Australian Epiphyte Species 6 Plants
1. *Den. bigibbum 'Lesley'* C. Polis
2. *Pholidota imbricata* M. Asbury
3. *Den. monophyllum* G. Cantor

40. Australasian Epiphyte Species

1. *Den. ternatense*
2. *Den. braoteosum*
3. *Den. braoteosum*

41. Dockrillia

1. *Doc. cucomerina*
2. *Doc. cucomerina*
3. *Doc. rigida*

42. Australasian Terrestrial

1. *Pterostylis laxa*

43. Laeliinae Alliance (cattleya & laelia)

1. *Laelia perrinii* 'Peat's Ridge'
2. *Cat. eldorado*
3. *Laelia perrinii*

44. Laeliinae Alliancecexima

1. *Enc. radiata*
2. *Enc. brassavolae*
3. *Brassavola nodosa var grandiflora*

45. Oncidiiae Alliance Species

1. *Gomesa crispa*
2. *Gomesa crispa*
3. *Onc. longipes*

46. Maxillaria Species

1. *Max. proestans*
2. *Max. dillonii*

47. Other Species 'The Americas'

1. *Sudamerlycaste sp*
2. *Lycaste measuresiana*
3. *Diffrenaria aureofulra*

Species Rest of the World

48. Dendrobium Species

1. *Den. annae*

49. Cyripedioideae (Paph and Prag)Species

1. *Paph. dianthum*
2. *Paph. charlesworthii*
3. *Paph. lowii var alba*

50. Phalaenopsis species

1. *Phal. Aphrodite*
2. *Phal. hieroglyphica 'Alba'*
3. *Phal. amboinensis*

51. Vandaeous Species

1. *Vanda tricolor* 'Hot Mustard'
2. *Vanda luzonica*
3. *Vanda tricolor*

52. Dendrochilum Species

1. *Ddc. macranthum*
2. *Ddc. magnum*
3. *Ddc. latifolium v. macranthum*

53. Coelogyne Species

1. *Coel. ovalis*
2. *Coel. speciosa*
3. *Coel. pandurata*

54. Other Species 'Asia & the Rest of World

1. *Bulb. guttulatum*
2. *Cym. dayonium*
3. *Stenoglottis longifolia*

55. Miniature-maximum height

(excluding raceme)of 150mm (6 inches)

1. *Oberonia sp*
2. *Coeletia tayforii*
3. *Bulbo. macphersonii*

56. First Flowering Seedling Species

57. First Flowering Seedling Hybrid

NOVICE

23. Australasian Species

24. Laeliinae

1. *Encyc. radiata*
2. *Cat. Labiate*

25. Oncidiiae

1. *Milt. Clowessii*

26. Any other Species of Americas

27. Species Rest of the World

1. *Coel. ovalis*
2. *Ddc. uncata*
3. *Ddc. magnum*

6 Plants

- M. Roberts
C. Polis

3 Plants

- G. Cantor
L. & B. Dobson
C. Polis

1 Plant

- R.G.Blaxland

6 Plants

- T. Riddell
P. McDonough
G. Cantor

8 Plants

- C. Polis
G. Cantor .
P. McDonough

6 Plants

- I. Tanner
C. Polis
C. Polis

2 Plants

- P. McDonough
P. McDonough

6 Plants

- G. Cantor
P. McDonough
I. Tanner

1 Plant

- C. Polis

4 Plants

- P. McDonough
G. & A. Cushway
P. McDonough

7 Plants

- C. Polis
C. Polis
C. Polis

6 Plants

- C. Polis
M. Roberts
R. G. Blaxland

4 Plants

- R. Mathews
G. Cantor
R.G. Blaxland

9 Plants

- M. Roberts
R.G. Blaxland
C. Polis

5 Plants

- P. McDonough
C. Polis
R. Mathews

8 Plants

- M. Asbury
C. Polis
L.&B. Dobson

0 Plants

0 Plants

0 Plants

0 Plants

2 Plants

- E. Henwood
S. Kirk

1 Plant

- O. & J. Zanstra

0 Plants

6 Plants

- O. & J. Zanstra
A. Evans
A. Evans

NOVICE CONTINUED

28. Australasian Hybrids

1. *Den.* Jonathan's Glory

29. Cymbidium Standard

30. Cymbidium Intermediate & Miniature

31. Paphiopedilum Hybrid

32. Dendrobium Hybrid

1 Plant

S. Kirk

0 Plants

0 Plants

0 Plants

0 Plants

33. Laeliinae Hybrid

1. *Epi.* Unknown

2. *Ctt.* Kauai Starbright "VI" x C. Fire Magic

3. *Epi.* Unknown

34. Oncidiinae Allied Intergenerics Hybrid

1. *Miltoniopsis* Kelly Bull's Eye

2. *Milt.* Purple Queen

3. *Onc.* alliances

35. Hybrid of Americas All Other

36. Other Orchid Hybrid

1. *Somsri Glory Blue Vanda* No 2

4 Plants

S. Kirk

P. Ridsuan

S. Kirk

7 Plants

S. Kirk

O. & J. .Zandstra

G. Wassermeyer

0 Plants

1 Plant

K. Nelson



Congratulations to all the award winners for March 2025!

Photos by Bill Dobson, unless noted Orchid info from Orchid.org, unless noted



Hybrid of the Evening:



(above photo by A. Evans)



***Oncidium* Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'
grown by Iona Luke**

This beautifully grown Sharry Baby hybrid is of a very popular **grex** that was produced from comparatively ordinary parents: *Onc.* Jamie Sutton x *Onc.* Honolulu, registered in 1983, with roots to four species: *Onc. altissimum*, *Onc. ornithorhynchum*, *Onc. anthocrene* (*syn. powellii*) and *Onc. leucochilum*.

The flowers are primarily a dark shade many describe as burgundy. The lip is white to pale pink with purple splashes near the centre and back edges. Its comparative chocolate scent seems to differ considerably between plants and admiring individuals.

'Sweet Fragrance' is the most common *Onc.* Sharry Baby. In about 2010, an American award was given to a mutated *Onc.* Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance', with variegated foliage. That plant, *Onc.* Sharry Baby 'Pacific Paradise', JC/AOS, shows that genetic changes can occasionally occur, even with orchids propagated from backbulbs or plant divisions.



Did you know...
A **grex** is a hybrid group based on their shared parentage.

Novice of the Evening:

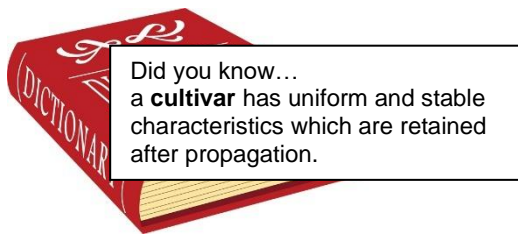


***Miltoniopsis* Kelly Bull's Eye** grown by Sophia Kirk

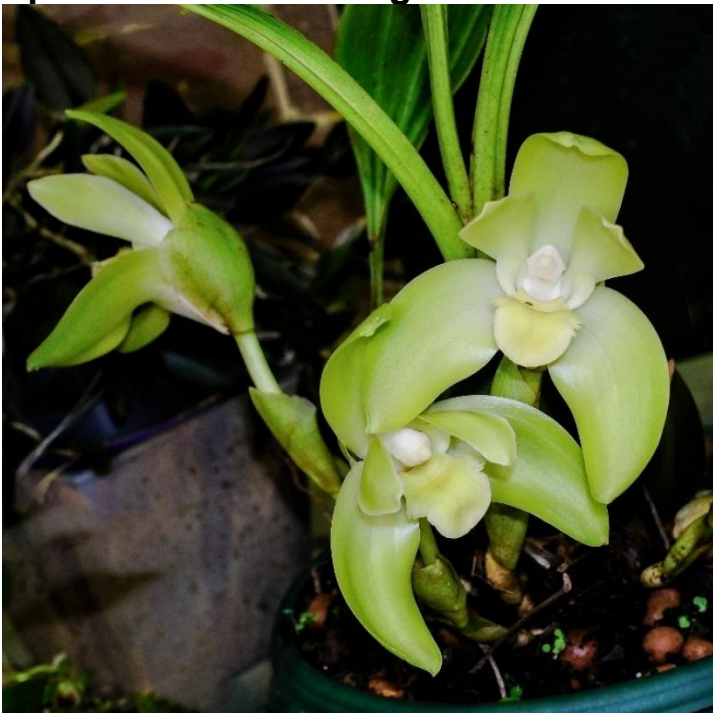
This hybrid, originated by M. Orenstein in 1985, is a cross of two other hybrids: *Mps.* Aurora Village x *Mps.* Emotion. Miltoniopsis' common name is the Pansy or Colombian Orchid, although it is also native to its neighbouring South American countries of Venezuela, Ecuador, and Peru, and also the Central American countries of Costa Rica, and Panama. At its native elevations of 1200 to 2500 meters in cloud rainforests, it likes shade and high humidity.

From the Greek comparative *-opsis*, meaning "like" or "similar to", the name refers to its resemblance to *Miltonia*. They differ, however, with *Miltoniopsis* having one leaf to each pseudobulb, and other differences in its column structure and connection to the labellum.

The **cultivar** Kelly Bull's Eye has white blooms with a colourful pattern on the petals with shades from burgundy to pink to white, and a lovely burgundy "sunburst" pattern on the lip.



Species of the Evening:



Sudamerlycaste ciliata grown by Guy Cantor

Sudamerlycaste ciliata is an orchid species identified by (Ruiz & Pav.) Archila in 2002. Its name has been subject to some confusion. Although it may have been identified as early as *Dendrobium ciliatum* by C.S.P. Parish in 1807, it has also been known as *Sudamerlycaste fragrans*, *Ida ciliata* or *Lycaste fragrans* in various published descriptions. From 2001 onwards, this species previously found in the *Lycaste* section *Fimbriatae*, endemic to South America and the Caribbean Islands, was placed into a new genus, *Sudamerlycaste*. Those found in Mexico and Central America stayed in *Lycaste*.

In its native Colombia, Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador, it is found in shady conditions in trees and rocky soil in river canyons and on decaying tree stumps at elevations of 1000 to 2800 meters.

Specimen of the Evening:



Coelogyne ovalis grown by Matt Roberts

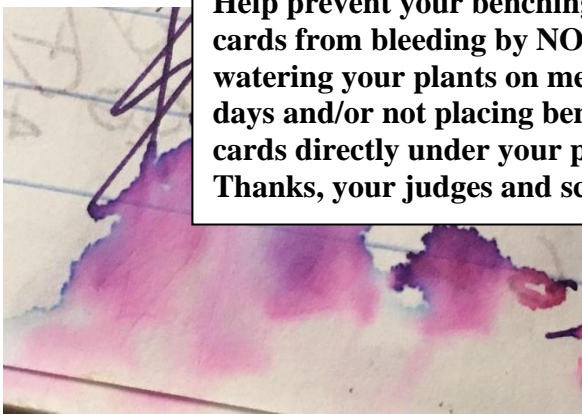
Coelogyne ovalis, also called as The Oval *Coelogyne*, Falling-Scale Orchid, *Coelogyne decora*, and *Coelogyne pilosissima*, is a species described by John Lindley in 1838.

It is found from the Himalayas (Tibet, Nepal, Bhutan and Assam, the northeast province of India) to the western Yunnan part of China, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam, in montane valleys on trees or rocks at elevations of 600 to 2100 meters.

In his online Orchid Societies Council of Victoria article entitled "The Genus *Coelogyne*", David Banks claims to be surprised that there are no *Coelogyne* species native to Australia, despite Australia's close links with the floras of its neighbouring Asian countries.

The name *Coelogyne* comes from the Latinised form of the Greek *koilos*, meaning hollow and *gyne*, meaning female, referring to the deeply set stigmatic cavity or female reproductive area found in these flowers.

The *Coelogyne ovalis* is one of the most popular *Coelogyne*s due to how forgiving and easy-to-grow it is. It multiplies easily and has a history of use in traditional ayurvedic medicine as *jivanti*, being used in western and southern parts of India to treat coughs, urinary infections, and eye problems. In Nepal it has been used to relieve fevers and headaches, and as an aphrodisiac. With that said, Matt should watch out that this plant doesn't disappear on his next benching of this plant!



**Help prevent your benching cards from bleeding by NOT watering your plants on meeting days and/or not placing benching cards directly under your pots!
Thanks, your judges and scribes**



DIARY DATES 2025

24th April Members' Meeting
22nd May Members' Meeting
23rd-25th May Orchids Out West
20th -22nd June MWOS Winter Show
26th June Members' Meeting
28th-29th June Mingara Orchid Show
24th July Members' Meeting
1st-3rd Aug Orchids by the Sea Show
15th-17th Aug St Ives Orchid Fair
28th Aug Members' Meeting
17th-19th Oct Orchids Central

Better Images of Your Flowers by Bill Dobson



These days, with any phone camera, you should be able to take good pictures of your orchid, even small ones. Some of the suggestions below may help you get sharper images.

1. Get a tripod. If you want sharp images, then you can't afford any camera shake. If you're photographing flowers, they are not going to run away so you have plenty of time. Use the tripod and either use a remote control or timer on the camera, so you're not touching it at all when the shutter goes off. You can get a simple Bluetooth remote for your iPhone or analogue for as little as \$5 and they work great.

1. You can get a holder for your phone to connect to a Tripod for \$20
2. Good light. Where possible use natural light. If this is not possible then use fill flash but be careful not to overexpose (make too bright and wash out all the nice colours).
3. Focus. Check that you are actually focusing on the plant and not something in the background.
4. Use a neutral background. Try a sheet of solid coloured cloth or some hobby cardboard. Remove any distracting things such as white tag, cards, or certificates.
5. Get close. Fill the frame with the shot that way you won't have to crop later, and the shot will be as large as possible.
6. Take many pictures. A digital image, until you print, doesn't cost anything. Take many pictures from different angles and at different settings.

Hope all is well with you and the club.

As we are coming out of winter here, the *kingianum* has flowered so I thought it would be nice to share with you and the MWOS next time you go. This is my best flowering yet. I bought it with one spike, second flowering two spikes, this flowering nine spikes. I'm going to repot after this flowering.

A big Thank you to Mark Asbury for submitting this photo and extract from a March email from Ray Pycraft, a former MWOS member now in the UK.



Cary's Ramble

Things are looking up at my place at the moment when it comes to light levels, with winter not all that far away. After years of less-than-ideal winter light levels on most of my growing area, the big block of land next door to me on the western side is in the process of being levelled. It used to have a very old house and many huge mature trees, which were heavily shading the western and north western part of my growing area. All of the sudden, my plants are awash with light. This should augur well for flowering this season. The downside is that in the summer, things might need a bit more protection. One can always do something about too much light, but it's difficult (in fact almost impossible) to deal with not enough.

Because the weather has remained quite warm, it has encouraged me to keep repotting and doing maintenance on my plants. In particular, I've been concentrating on some of my gangly overgrown *Vandas*. I've been doing quite a few top cuts which is just what some of these plants actually need. When I do the top cut, the only way to accommodate the roots in the new pot is to soak them in water overnight, to make them supple so that they can be wound into the pot. When they get too tall, they become quite top-heavy and this can be a real issue with transport and benching. One thing that I've started doing when taking any *Vandas* to a meeting is to stand them up on the floor behind the driver's seat and secure them with an octopus strap around the struts of the driver's headrest. This may sound crude to some of you, and it is crude, but it certainly works well.

Apart from that, I'm still doing the regular walkpast and this is resulting in the realisation that the dendrobium beetles are still pretty active at my place. I still have the odd problem with scale in the hothouse and am dealing with this when I see it. There are plenty of green root tips around the place meaning that growth is still active so I'm still feeding.

Footnote: You don't have to hear from me every month. I would invite any of you to make a contribution with an article with or without photos. Everyone has a range of different experiences and different ways of doing things and it would be very beneficial to the group to have this sort of input from different people. (NB Email your attached article/photo or idea for one to Anne Evans)



“No one puts on an auction like MWOS!”

-President C. Polis



Don't forget to submit to whatstheproblem.mwos@gmail.com any photos of your orchids that don't make it to the meetings so they can be featured in “The In-Betweeners” article in the next Bulletin!