



THE SPECIES ORCHID SOCIETY OF WA INC.

<https://speciesorchidsocietywa.com>

Vol 37 No 4 September 2025

NEWSLETTER



Anne O'Callaghan Award August 2025
Cymbidium sinense
Siva

NEXT MEETING Tuesday 9 September

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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

8 July 2025 7.40 pm

Present: 25 members as per register.

Apologies: 3 as per register.

Visitors: 1 as per register

New members: Xiao (Shawn)

Minutes: Summary of minutes of July meeting tabled for members. Acceptance of minutes moved Rod, seconded Helen. Carried

Business Arising: Nil

Financial Report: Adrian presented the financial report. The balance at 30 June was \$5,620.99 plus \$175.95 on the prepaid credit card. Acceptance of financial report moved Adrian, seconded Bruce. Carried.

Correspondence:

Inwards:

- Committee - draft GM agenda and draft GM minutes.
- Siva – photos from GM
- Paul Somers – newsletters and photos uploaded to One Drive for website.
- SpacetoCo and City of Canning confirming meeting booking and amended bookings summary for 2026 and 2027 (no January meeting), receipt of GCA insurance.
- Sue Pearson – ISODW program and other information.
- Gary Yong Gee – name for unidentified Dendrobium.
- AOF Newsletter.
- ATO – NFP self-review due by 31 October 2025.
- Bruce Larson – Joseph Wu Orchids at POF, POF, and Kingsley Dixon proposal.
- Members – plants for ISODW display.

Outwards:

- Committee - draft committee meeting agenda and minutes, draft GM agenda and minutes,
- Gary Yong Gee – name for unidentified Dendrobium.
- City of Canning and SpacetoCo – advising meeting dates not required for January 2026 and January 2027 and GCA certificate of insurance.
- Paul Somers – newsletter and photos to be uploaded to One Drive for website.
- Members – newsletters to members

Correspondence report moved Ian, seconded Graham. Carried.

Business Arising: Nil

Presentation

Our presenter tonight is Ryan and he will talk to us about how he has managed to build and care for an orchid collection when he does not have backyard space in which to house an orchid cultivation area.

General Business:

Silent auction

- Lee-Anne thanked members who supported the SOSWA display of approximately 50 species orchids at the 2025 ISODW hosted by South Eastern Orchid Society on 2-3 August 2025, and thanked Adrian for the new display staging that was easy to assemble and disassemble.
- Many favourable comments were received from the general public on Sunday who in some instances were completely unaware of the variety and extent of species orchid habitats.
- Lee-Anne thanked Adrian & Dee, Graham & Margaret, Paul, Siva, Lee-Anne, Murray, Rod, Helen and Ken & Chris for providing flowering orchids for the display, Lee-Anne and Linda for planning and delivering the display theme material, Adrian for constructing the display staging, and Adrian, Graham & Margaret, Paul, Siva, Lee-Anne, Linda, Murray, Rod and Ken

for helping set up and dismantle the display at the end.

- Congratulations to Busselton Orchid Society for their winning display.
- It is regrettable that the weather was so bad on Sunday that it most probably significantly decreased public attendance at the event. This was very disappointing for South Eastern Orchid Society who had committed substantial effort to plan and stage the 2025 ISODW

Perth Orchid Fair

- Lee-Anne reminded members that SOSWA is staging a display of flowering species orchids at the Perth Orchid Fair. Setup is in the evening of Friday 12 September. If you think that you will have plants for this display, please provide details to Ken by the end of August.
- A roster for volunteers to help run the event on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14 September will be at the home visit and September GM. Please add your name to the roster if you are able to help run this event. As previously advised, any profit generated will be distributed to participating clubs - 50% on their member's recorded volunteer hours and 50% on their seed funding contribution.
- Lee-Anne confirmed that the volunteer raffle conducted last year will take place again. Remember to sign in when you come to the event for your volunteer hours to be recorded and for a ticket in the volunteer raffle.
- SOSWA has purchased folding trestle tables – two used in the new display constructed by Adrian and two for use in the POF plant sales area.
- Lee-Anne reminded members that those wishing to sell plants at POF are required to volunteer for at least one full roster. ,

Newsletter Layout

- Ken advised that thanks to Paul, a new format template was trialled in July. It is double sided A4 in a larger font with bigger photos, and less pages. The PDF copy that is e-mailed to members is the same, as is the copy posted to the website.
- Please provide feedback to Lee-Anne or Ken about the new format, and any suggestions that you might have to make it more effective for you.

Curtin FM club promotion

- Ken has contacted Curtin FM to review the wording of our annual community announcement facility providing information about our society and meetings.
- Lee-Anne advised members that the existing wording has not been refreshed for several years, and committee will consider changes at our next Committee meeting in August.
- Members were advised that we have contacted Curtin FM to authorise our monthly subscription for August 2025 to be applied to promotion for the Perth Orchid Fair. Members endorsed this action.

Supper

- Lee-Anne told members that at the July meeting, we trialled having supper earlier during our meeting to allow members helping with supper to commence the clean up earlier and to depart the meeting at the same time as other members. Members strongly supported this action. Tonight, supper will be ready after the plant description and at the same time as the Anne O'Callaghan award popular vote is carried out

Other General Business: Nil

September Presentation: Norm Stockton will present a PowerPoint presentation titled "Orchids of Lane Cove National Park ". Norm is a most entertaining and knowledgeable presenter on Australian species orchids and his presentation should not be missed.

Anne O'Callaghan Cultural Award:

Members voted for Siva's *Cymbidium sinense*

Name Badge: Mavis

Raffle: .Jordana, Linda, Arnold, Antonio

Meeting closed: 8.40 pm

FORTH-COMING EVENTS

Home visits: 10am 28 Sept - Wireless Hill terrestrial orchid walk

MARKETPLACE - FOR SALE/WANTED

President: Lee-Anne

Vice President: Ryan

Treasurer: Adrian

Secretary: Ken Jones

210 Hermitage Drive, The Vines 6069.

Phone: 9296 1765

e-mail: kcjones@tpg.com.au

Editor: Ken

Committee:

Murray

Graham

Linda

Rod

Marion

Paul

Mavis

Life Members

Ian

Graham & Margaret

Chris (dec'd)

Barry (dec'd)

Gordon (dec'd)

Maxine (dec'd)

Ken & Chris

Adrian & Deanne

Joan (dec'd) & Ted (dec'd)

Trevor (dec'd)

Neville (dec'd)

Paul & Andrea

Noel (dec'd) & Eva

Tony (dec'd) & Mavis

Barry (dec'd)

Quiet Achievers

2013 Ian

2014 Chris (dec'd)

2015 Margaret

2016 Tom & Pat

Quiet Achievers

2017 Charly & Gerda

2018 Paul

2020 Adrian & Deanne

2021 John

2024 Graham

MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED August 2025

Photography by Jordana

Murray & Arni

Cattleya loddigesii
Dendrobium aemulum
Osmoglossum pulchellum

Graham & Margaret

Bonatea speciosa
Diuris brumalis
Pterostylis nana

Ryan

Pleurothallis quadrifida

Ken & Chris

Cattleya percivaliana
Coelogyne assamica
Oncidium hyphaematicum
Phragmipedium sargentianum
Pleurothallis restrepioides

Adrian & Dee

Dendrobium nobile
Laelia anceps
Leptotes pohlitinocoi
Maxillaria schunkeana

Bruce

Anacheilium fragrans
Dendrobium nobile

Marian

Cattleya loddigesii

Siva

Cymbidium sinense
Phalaenopsis heiroglyphica



Anacheilium fragrans
Bruce



Maxillaria schunkeana
Adrian & Deanne

MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED AUGUST 2025

Photography by Jordana



Phragmipedium sargentianum
Ken & Chris



Dendrobium nobile
Bruce



Bonatea speciosa
Graham & Margaret



Phalaenopsis heiroglyphica
Siva

MONTHLY PLANT

Laelia aurea A. V. Navarro 1990

Cost: \$20

Country of origin: Mexico

Description: Medium sized hot growing epiphyte.

Difficulty: This species should not be difficult to grow if you can keep them sheltered from rain in winter. In their native habitat, this species is semi-dormant in winter. The yellow form was rare in cultivation until the late 1990's.

Found in Mexico at around 200m as a small-medium sized, hot growing epiphyte with clustered, reclining, often one above the other, ovate to elliptic, green suffused purple, smooth pseudobulbs carrying a single, apical, coriaceous, rigid basally conduplicate leaf. Flowering in autumn occurs on a terminal, racemose up to 30 cm long raceme, slightly compressed raceme carrying 4 -16 successive large yellow flowers with a red throat. The flowers are pleasantly fragrant and quite long lasting.



In situ photo source: <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1303880699741234&set=pcb.1940300529579858>

Photo source: <https://orchidroots.com/display/photos/orchidaceae/106911/?role=pub>

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

Perth Orchid Fair Displays

The Species Society has committed to staging displays at both the ISODW (first weekend in August) and the Perth Orchid Fair (13-14 September). We will need every flowering species orchid you have for each of these displays.

As we have mentioned several times, please advise the secretary of any orchids that you are likely to have in flower for either of these displays a week prior to the event so that name tags can be prepared.

If you have indicated your willingness to be involved in either planning or staging one or both of the displays, you will be contacted prior to the events. Also, the POF roster will be at the September general meeting. As 50% of the profit is distributed on volunteer hours, we do hope that you are able to assist in delivering this event as a volunteer.

Annual Membership

Our financial year ended 28 February and your annual membership is now due. The membership fee is \$20 for an individual member and \$30 for a family membership. You can pay the Treasurer at a meeting, or transfer payment by EFT to the Society's account at Bendigo Bank, BSB 633-000, account 122491988 including your surname.

Ryan's presentation

Ryan talked to members about growing orchids when you don't have a backyard in which to erect glasshouses or shade houses.

In an entertaining and informative presentation, Ryan told us that he successfully grows his orchids in a plastic mini-wheely bin, with water in the bottom where he has resident fish and



plastic mesh around the sides on which to hang his orchids as shown in the picture.

He provides light, air movement via a fan. As the picture shows, his plants are growing well with the majority mounted on hardwood, natural cork or in small baskets or pots.

Demonstrated by the orchids he tables at our meetings, his plants are flourishing in this environment.

Members thoroughly enjoyed Ryan's presentation . It is always interesting to learn how different orchid growers adapt their orchid culture to cope with the constraints they face and conditions that apply.

Orchid Culture Essentials – Nutrition

The majority of the species orchids we grow are either epiphytic on trees or lithophytic on rocks where there is abundant air movement in their natural environment, or in some instances terrestrial growing in soil or humus.

To turn our attention to the nutrients that we can supply to our orchids to enhance growth and plant vigour and promote flowering, and the extent to which these nutrients are absorbed by the orchid and contribute to the desired outcome, we need to have regard for the substrate in which the orchid is growing. Some can bind minerals rendering them unavailable to the orchid, a process that is also affected by pH.

The following table of mineral elements required for orchid growth was also published by Morrison 1991.

Element	Action
Nitrogen as NO_3 & NO_4	Constituent of amino acid (proteins and enzymes), chlorophyll, DNA and RNA
P as H_2PO_4 or HPO_4^{2-}	Phosphorus is an important component of the DNA and RNA molecules and is an essential element for cereal crops in Australia due to our poor soils. It is not taken up by orchids at anything but very low concentration.
K as K^+	Potassium is the prime activator of enzymes, a cation to neutralise anionic change. Potassium is a non-toxic cation except in high salinity conditions.

Contd. In October

ABOUT US

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings held on the second Tuesday of each month at Wilson Community Hall, Braibrise St, Wilson commencing 7.30 pm. Usually, the short formal meeting is followed by plant descriptions given by members. Supper follows to allow members time to socialise and discuss orchids. All visitors are very welcome

Membership Fees

Family \$30 pa. For first year only, new family members will need to

purchase two name badges. Badges come in two versions - pin fastening \$14.00 or magnet fastening \$16.00 [*Please indicate preference*]

Single \$20.00 pa. For first year only, new members will need to purchase a name badge. Badges come in two versions - pin fastening \$14.00 or magnet fastening \$16.00 [*Please indicate preference*]

New members who don't live in Perth will not require name badges, therefore membership cost will be at the renewal fee only.

Monthly Home Visit

On the weekend following the fourth Tuesday of each month (generally on the Sunday morning), when we can find a host, a home visit is held at a member's home. This gives members an opportunity to enjoy the fellowship that our mutual interest provides, and to see how others go about growing their orchids.

Raffle

The Society conducts a raffle each meeting and at home visits as a means of generating funds. If you have spare species orchids that you wish to sell to the Society for raffles, please advise a committee member.

Monthly Plant Display

Given that the prime objective of the Society is to promote the cultivation of species orchids, only species or natural hybrids are acceptable for display.

Since we all may be uncertain about the identification of a plant from time to time, we encourage members to bring plants along about which they are unsure since someone may be able to identify them. There is no

competition nor restriction on flower count, quality or length of ownership. We want members to be able to see species plants in flower.

So even if your flowers are a bit past their best, bring them in as others may not have seen that species in flower.

Plant Sales

The Society provides an opportunity table for members to sell surplus plants and equipment, and for the Society to sell product from time to time.

Plant Purchases

The Society endeavours to obtain a different species seedling for sale at each meeting, usually costing between \$15.00 and \$20.00. The Society makes a small profit on these sales which is invested in benefits to members. As it is always difficult to get new or different species, should members have 20 or more plants of one species which they feel might be suitable as a monthly plant, please contact a Committee member.

Management

In accordance with the Rules, the Annual General meeting is held in May each year at which time the office-bearers and committee are elected.

The majority of Committee members serve two year terms.

If unclaimed, return to
The Editor
210 Hermitage Drive, The Vines WA 6069

Next meeting Tuesday 9 September 2025