



THE SPECIES ORCHID SOCIETY OF WA INC.

<https://speciesorchidsocietywa.com>

Vol 37 No 9 March 2026

NEWSLETTER



Anne O'Callaghan Award February 2026
Clowesia russelliana
Ken & Chris

NEXT MEETING Tuesday 10 March

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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

10 February 2026 7.34 pm

Present: 26 members as per register.

Apologies: 6 as per register.

Visitors: 1 as per register

New members: Nil

Minutes: Summary of minutes of November meeting tabled for members. Acceptance of minutes moved Marian, seconded Rody. Carried

Business Arising: Nil

Financial Report: Adrian presented the financial report. The balance at bank on 31 January was \$6,225.99. and \$280.90 on the Debit Card. Acceptance of financial report moved Adrian, seconded Carolyn. Carried

Correspondence:

Inwards:

- Committee - draft GM agenda and draft GM minutes.
- Siva – photos from GM.
- Garden Clubs Australia annual membership and insurance invoices and members details update form
- SpacetoCo – February venue booking
- Paul – newsletters and photos uploaded to One Drive for website.

Outwards:

- Committee - draft committee meeting agenda and minutes, draft GM agenda and minutes, draft 2026 program, Not For Profit self-review submitted to ATO
- Paul – newsletter and photos uploaded to One Drive for website.
- Members – newsletters to members

Correspondence report moved Arnold, seconded Jordana. Carried.

Business Arising: Nil

General Business:

Orchids WA

- Lee-Anne told members that the OWA Management Committee met on 25 November to discuss the Orchid Hub Project, the 2026 AGM and general meetings She thanked Bruce and Diane for drafting the business plan for consideration by members.
- A draft program of meeting dates will be circulated with the AGM minutes.

Home Visits

- The 2026 home visit program was published in the December newsletter.
- Thanks Mavis for compiling this program. It will be updated as other members offer to host a home visit.
- The next home visit is at the home of Adrian & Deanne José on Sunday 22 March.

2026 Program

- To provide value to our members, we have developed a presentation/workshop program for the year with some activity at each meeting.
- Ken has asked Graham, Norm, Ryan, Shawn and Bruce and they have agreed to conduct either a workshop or presentation on a matter of interest to our members. Thanks to these members for being prepared to participate – if any other members would like to do so, please let the Secretary know.
- The draft 2026 program will be e-mailed to members.

Website

- The SOSWA website hosting is due for renewal. This will be discussed at the next committee meeting
- Lee-Anne asked members how many visited the website, and how often.

Presentation

Ryan discussed his passion for growing orchids in the *Pleurothallidinae* family. He told members that he now grows them in a small greenhouse purchased from Bunnings with fans for air movement and humidification. He also showed us how he repots and divides plants, and talked about his media, primarily sphagnum moss. Several members asked questions.

Anne O'Callaghan Cultural Award: Members voted for Ken & Chris' *Clowesia russelliana*

Name Badge: Ian

Raffle: Marian (2), Murray, Rod, Lee-Anne

Meeting closed: 9.10 pm

The following is the first in a series of four short articles written by Graham & Magaret recalling some of the early years of Species Society excursions to the Southwest.

Orchids in the WA Southwest Bush - Introduction

I cannot remember when I was not interested in the bush and its plants and animals. Until I was in High School I lived in country towns. However, when I returned to Australia and lived in Perth, WA, I continued a fairly close relationship with my relations, the Heberle family and was taken by them to find orchids near Perth when they retired here. This was in the 1990's as my family went to Wyndham for four years in the 1980s. Unfortunately, I have lost to the computer "cloud" almost all of my records of forays in the last century, and my records are only from 2003.



I guess this is a bit of a nostalgia trip for me, but I thought members could be interested in how past members have been out photographing our, more often than not, unique flowers.



Neville and the rare and endangered *Diuris drummondii* in Carey Park in Bunbury

These include some of our past presidents such as Reg, Maxine, Tony, Ken and our founding president Neville. I have tried to also find a closeup picture of the orchid they are recording.

Tony in 2011 at Tarwonga



Contd. p7

2026 Home Visit Program

Sunday 22 March 2026, 10.00am
Saturday 18 April 2026, 10.00am
Sunday 21 June 2026, 10.00am
Sunday 26 July 2026, 10.00am
Sunday 16 August 2026, 10.00am
Sunday 27 September 2026, 10.00am
Sunday 25 October 2026, 10.00am

Adrian & Dee José, Safety Bay
Ezi-Gro Orchids, Lansdale
Bruce & Kaye, Larson, Dianella
Ken & Chris Jones, The Vines
Norm Stockton, Riverton
terrestrial orchid visit, Wireless Hill
Graham & Margaret, Hamersly

FORTH-COMING EVENTS

Home visits: 22 March 2026, Adrian & Dee, Safety Bay

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

Life Members

Ian

Graham & Margaret

Chris Cabassi (dec'd)

Barry Gardner (dec'd)

Gordon Doherty (dec'd)

Maxine Godbeer (dec'd)

Ken & Chris

Adrian & Deanne

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

Trevor Pratt (dec'd)

Neville Risbey (dec'd)

Paul & Andrea

Noel (dec'd) & Eva

Tony (dec'd) & Mavis

Barry Winter (dec'd)

Quiet Achievers

2013 Ian

2014 Chris Cabassi (dec'd)

2015 Margaret

2016 Tom & Pat

Quiet Achievers

2017 Charly & Gerda

2018 Paul

2020 Adrian & Deanne

2021 John

2024 Graham

MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED

February 2026

Graham & Magaret

Dendrobium x superbiens (2)

Ryan

Polystachya vulcanica
Restrepia trichoglossa
Stelis poasensis

Diane

Vanda falcata

Ken & Chris

Angraecum eburneum ssp. *xerophyllum*
Brassavola nodosa var. *major*
Clowesia russelliana
Cymbidium atropurpureum
Cymbidium bicolor
Encyclia belizensis
Epidendrum ciliare
Myrmecophila thomsoniana var. *thomsoniana*

Adrian & Deanne

Dendrobium lobatum
Dendrobium secundum
Dendrobium tangerinum

Sharon

Maxillaria schunkeana

Victor

Eulophia petersii

Norm

Encyclia aspera



Brassavola nodosa var. *major*
Ken & Chris



Polystachya vulcanica
Ryan

MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED February 2026

Photography by Jordana



Dendrobium x superbiens
Graham & Margaret



Dendrobium lobatum
Adrian & Deanne



Vanda falcata
Diane



Epidendrum ciliare
Ken & Chris

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

Monthly Sale Plants

We are following up several opportunities to acquire species orchid seedlings for sale to members at reasonable prices. Given the current prices advertised by several large Eastern States suppliers, and the cost of getting the plants to Perth, we have made contact with local growers including Margaret Heaton. Lee-Anne has ordered twenty plants of *Cymbidium wenshanense* from Barrita Orchids for the society, and Adrian will follow up with

Margaret Heaton. Rod advised that he is experiencing some success with deflasking and will probably have some species that he could sell us later this year. If any members have up to 20 plants of any species that they would be prepared to sell to us, please advise a committee member.

Annual Membership

Our financial year ends 28 February 2026 and your 2026-27 membership will be due. The current 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 plus surname.

MONTHLY PLANT

Cymbidium wenshanense Y.S.Wu & F.Y.Liu 1990

Cost: \$15

Country of origin: Southeastern Yunnan province of China and northern Vietnam

Description: Large size cool growing epiphyte.

Difficulty: This species should not be difficult to grow if you already grow *Cymbidium* orchids.

Found on trees at 1,000 to 1,500m as a large cool growing epiphyte with ovoid pseudo-bulbs enveloped by persistent sheaths and carrying linear-lorate, arcuate dark green leaves.

Flowering in late winter and early spring occurs on a 32-39 cm three - seven flowered inflorescence carrying large white showy, fragrant flowers. This species is now rare in its natural habitat.

These good size seedlings were purchased from Barrita Orchids



Photo source: <https://travaldo.blogspot.com/2021/08/cymbidium-wenshanense-wenshan-cymb>

Orchids in the WA Southwest Bush - Introduction contd.



Tony at Poorrarecup in 2003 with a *Caladenia pectinata*.



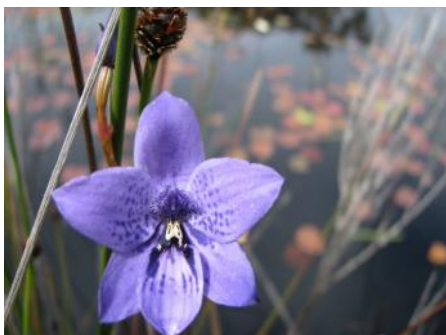
Maxine at the Wambyn Reserve near York on a SOSWA excursion.



Ron Heberle with a collection brought to him whilst he was in hospital.



Tony looking at *Epiblema grandiflora* near windy Harbour in December 2003



Graham in 2003.

Contd. in April

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.

Single \$20.00 pa. For first year only, new members will need to purchase a name badge.

Name Badges

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 10 March 2026