



THE SPECIES ORCHID SOCIETY OF WA INC.

<https://speciesorchidsocietywa.com>

Vol 37 No 10 April 2026



Anne O'Callaghan Award March 2026
Cymbidium ensifolium
Xiao

NEXT MEETING Tuesday 14 April

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NEWSLETTER

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

10 March 2026 7.34 pm

Present: 24 members as per register.

Apologies: 6 as per register.

Visitors: 3 as per register

New members: Bofeng

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

Business Arising: Nil

Financial Report: Adrian presented the financial report. The balance at bank on 28 February was \$6,441.90. and \$280.90 on the Debit Card. Acceptance of financial report moved Adrian, seconded Ian. Carried

Business Arising: Adrian advised members that the bank balance had increased over that reported in 2024/25.

Correspondence:

Inwards:

- Committee - draft GM agenda and draft GM minutes.
- Jordana – photos from GM.
- SpacetoCo – March 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, approval from DLGIRS for change of rules at SGM November 2025.
- Paul – newsletter and photos uploaded to One Drive for website.
- Members – newsletters to members

Correspondence report moved Graham, seconded Arnold. Carried.

Business Arising: Nil

Presentation:

Graham demonstrated his method of preparing/repotting terrestrial orchid tubers and soil for the upcoming winter/spring flowering season, and the process for checking and separating tubers. Members asked questions during the presentation about growing and flowering these orchids. At the conclusion of his presentation, Graham invited members to try repotting and gave away several *Caladenia* tubers. Members were very appreciative of the information provided. Lee-Anne also showed members her trial of growing plants from a *Phaius* flower-spike using keiki paste in coir fibre. She has grown two plantlets that are making new roots.

General Business:

Newsletter

- Ken advised members that the March newsletter included the first of four short articles from Graham on “Orchids of The Southwest” including photos of current and past members looking at terrestrial orchids in situ from 2003. Ken thanked Graham for this contribution to our newsletter.
- Ken advised members that Microsoft will cease the Publisher product we have used for many years to produce the newsletter in October 2026. Committee is concerned that if we cannot access MS Publisher documents in future, then a significant amount of the SOSWA archive could be lost (other than PDF copies in a different format), and advised that we may need to consider purchasing replacement software such as Adobe Professional, Canva, Affinity Publisher or Scribus – Paul will advise us about options over the next few months on what might meet our needs.

Membership

- The Species Society's financial year ended on the 28 February. Your 2026-27 membership is now due and can be paid to the Treasurer tonight, or by EFT to our bank account as shown on newsletter.
- The Annual General Meeting will be our May meeting on Tuesday 12 May.

Home Visits

- Lee-Anne thanked Mavis for arranging the 2026 home visit program that was published in the December newsletter. It will be updated as other members offer to host a home visit. The next home visit is at the home of Adrian & Deanne on Sunday 22 March will also be a sausage sizzle lunch – bring a salad or dessert to share.

2026 Program

- Thanks to the members who have agreed to deliver a presentation or workshop at our general meetings.
- We will approach Neutrog to speak at a meeting and contacted David Edmonds to arrange for him to talk at one of our meetings when he is in Perth for some other event. If any other members would like to deliver a presentation or workshop, please let the Secretary know. A draft 2026 meeting program will be e-mailed to members when finalised.

Website

- Ken advised members that Panthur (our website host) has advised of a small increase from \$385.63 pa to \$424.19 pa at 5/3/2026.
- The limited use made of the website by members indicated by the show of hands at the February GM was discussed by committee, however it was agreed to continue to have the website as a promotional tool while Paul is able to administer it for us. Should this change and we have to engage someone else to do this for us, we will need to review this decision.
- At the committee meeting, Graham asked members whether we are able to add the Ron Heberle material that Tony had on the previous website, which was in considerable demand, often by international authors. Paul has advised that we cannot as we do not have access to the old website.
- Ken advised that he has checked Tony's external hard discs that he has but could not find it. We will check some of Tony's CDs that Mavis has.

Plant Inventory

- Lee-Anne reminded members that we are always looking for more monthly sale plants – if you have a spare 15-20 plants of a species that you would be happy to sell to us or know someone who might have spare plants, please let a committee member know.
- Adrian is negotiating with Margaret to purchase seedlings for sale to members, and we spoke with David from Orchidup at the Kalamunda Garden Fair – he does not have many species seedlings at present but is planning deflasking and might have some later in the year.
- Lee-Anne advised members that we will also visit Kevin at Ezi-Gro who sells us plants at discount prices as part of his support for local orchid societies.
- We also need to replenish our stock of raffle prizes so if you have extra flowering or near flowering size species that you would be happy to sell, please let us know.

Anne O'Callaghan Cultural Award: Members voted for Xiao's *Cymbidium ensifolium*

Maxine Godbeer Award: This award is for a new member when they first table an orchid in our meeting display. In this instance, Xiao was presented with an additional plant to the one for winning the popular vote.

Name Badge: Jordana

Raffle: Rod (2), Linda, Arnold.

Meeting closed: 9.10 pm

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 Bowden, Hamersly

FORTH-COMING EVENTS

Home visits: 22 March 2026, Adrian & Dee José, , 72 Waikiki Road, 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

March 2026

Photography by Jordana

Graham & Magaret

Coelogyne cobbiana
Dendrobium crumenatum
Phalaenopsis equestris

Ryan

Prosthechea cochleata

Diane

Brassavola perrinii
Cattleya tenebrosa

Ken & Chris

Cattleya bicolor
Cattleya harrisoniana
Coelogyne speciosa
Guarianthe aurantiaca
Stelis argentata

Adrian & Deanne

Brassavola perrinii
Dendrobium bigibbum
Vanda lamellata

Lee-Anne

Cymbidium dayanum
Encyclia livida
Epigenium cymbidiodes
Maxillaria tenuifolia

John

Cattleya harrisoniana

Xiao

Cymbidium ensifolium (2)



Cymbidium ensifolium
Xiao



Cattleya tenebrosa
Diane

MONTHLY PLANT

***Cattleya quadricolor semi alba* Lindl 1853**

Cost: \$15

Country of origin: Colombia

Difficulty: This *Cattleya* like others is suited to shadehouse conditions

Description: Medium sized warm to cool growing epiphyte found high up on branches of tall trees in bright light

Found in Valle de Cauca, Quindio and Risaralda departments of Colombia on the eastern slopes of the of the Andes at 600 - 1,500m. Flowering in spring and summer occurs on an erect, short 12 -14 cm two to three 3 flowered inflorescence carrying fragrant, plum scented, campanulate flowers.



Photo source: <https://www.orchidboard.com/community/cattleya-alliance/109063-cattleya-quadricolor-chocoensis-candida-semi-alba-amoen.html>

In situ photo source: <https://orchidroots.com/display/summary/orchidaceae/36080/>



NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

Monthly Sale Plants

Unfortunately, several of the *Cymbidium wenshanense* purchased by Lee-Anne are not doing well, so at the March meeting we sold *Dendrobium aphyllum* that Adrian purchased from Margaret. We continue to explore avenues to acquire species orchid seedlings for sale to members at reasonable prices, and have made contact with local growers including Margaret. 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.

Annual General Meeting

The Society's AGM will be held on Tuesday 12 May. Thanks to Linda & Marian for nominating for committee and Ryan for Vice President at the 2025 AGM- we now have a full committee. In accordance with the rules, Lee-Anne will stand down as President at the 2026 AGM having served in the position for two years, and will remain on committee as an ex-officio member. Nomination forms and other AGM information will be distributed with this newsletter.

Orchids in the WA Southwest Bush - Part two

This was one of the first places Ron & Pauline Heberle took Margaret and me to find orchids. It was in the 1990s, I think, and I remember the drive from Albany to this spot quite clearly. We pulled off the track (from the Lake Poorrarecup Rd.) and could not progress because of the



huge numbers of White Spider Orchids (*Caladenia eminens*) and the Donkey Orchids (*Diuris brownii* and *Diuris longifolia*). I have no photos from this trip but in November 2003 we went down there with Tony Watkinson. On the way about 20km north of Kojonup and the Albany Highway verge we saw some *Thelymitra macrophylla* in profusion. Unfortunately, it was too cold and they were all closed - to the left is Margaret a year or so ago.



Caladenia falcata



Caladenia marginata



Caladenia pectinata



Elythranchia emarginata



Lyperanthus serratus



Thelymitra benthamiana



Thelymitra benthamiana
with no spots



Thelymitra macrophylla



Thelymitra x macmillanii

The last Orchid was found near the Albany Highway just south of the entrance of the Great Southern Highway near Cranbrook. It was a natural hybrid of *Thelymitra antennifera* and *Thelymitra macrophylla* (*Thelymitra x macmillanii*) both of which were in abundance at the time. This was the most colourful of the several hybrids there.

Society Rescue Dig 2005

SOSWA committee arranged a rescue dig on the freeway reserve just north of Hodges Drive as Main Roads were in the planning stages of planning the freeway extension. The first photo is of Ron Heberle marvelling at the variety of the Carousel Orchids (*Caladenia arenicola*) in one patch. Probably these were a result of mixing with the other spider orchids there.



This shows the length of the orchids' tuber and the difficulty in removing the full tuber.



Contd. in May

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 14 April 2026