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ISSUE 658 Dec 2025

**PATRON**  
Ian Nelson

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Cary Polis

**VICE PRESIDENTS**  
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2. Kathleen Nelson

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Ros Mathews  
Matt Roberts

**BULLETIN EDITOR**  
Anne Evans  
AnneatMWOS@gmail.com

**NEXT MEMBERS'  
MEETING**  
18th Dec 2025 at the  
Cromer Community  
Centre @ 8pm  
(benching from 7:30).

**NEXT COMMITTEE  
MEETING**  
5<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026. Contact  
secretary for details.

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

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# MANLY WARRINGAH ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

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



## President's Report

The November meeting produced a spectacular display of many beautiful plants, so the judges had their work cut out for them, especially regarding the *Laelia purpuratas* which were so numerous, taking up two tables. Apart from these, there were many other beautiful plants benched, which is a testament to the quality that our members have in their collections. We even had young Kane who acted as a "guest judge" in the *Laelia purpurata* section after the resident judges had been through. I'm hopeful that he will become the first junior member that MWOS has had for quite a while. After a great supper, there was a demonstration of how to deal with a massively overgrown plant of *Aerides odorata* when it comes to repotting time. This was well received with plenty of input and banter from certain members to provide added entertainment. Thanks to an outstanding committee for putting our Christmas party together and all the helpers on the day. Congratulations to the 2025 benching and meritorious service awards winners. Lastly, don't forget the December members' meeting **is a week earlier than normal, on the 18<sup>th</sup>**, so hopefully, I will see you there. If not, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all!



Arianne McCombie accepts MWOS donation on behalf of Fisher Rd School

## What's On This Month:

### Super Supper Volunteers for 18th December:

**Nancy Macri and Kathleen Nelson**



Please sign up for at least one date on the circulated **2026 Supper Roster** at this month's meeting. Store bought items are fine; they don't need to be home made. A huge thank-you to all who brought food, helped set up and cleaned up the supper area in 2025! Your assistance was greatly appreciated. Enjoy your holidays! -Anne

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**18th Dec - No speaker, nor culture session, to allow an  
extended supper for socializing and well wishes.**

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## NOVEMBER 2025 BENCHING RESULTS

Total plants benched: 164

### OPEN DIVISION

- 1. Sarcophilus Hybrid** 0 Plants  
**2. Australian Native Hybrid** 0 Plants  
**3. Australasian Hybrid** 2 Plants  
1. *Den.* Nancy Fairfax Natalie AM/AOC A. Sulfaro  
2. *Den.* Nancy Fairfax Natalie AM/AOC A. Sulfaro  
**4. Dockrillia Hybrid** 0 Plants  
**5. Laeliinae Hybrid (Exhibition) >120mm** 1 Plant  
1. *C.* Lynn Spencer 'Cha' G. & A. Cushway  
**6. Laeliinae Hybrid (Exhibition) <120mm** 4 Plants  
1. *Pot.* Lisa Taylor Gallis 'Nora' G. & A. Cushway  
2. *Lc.* Pink Spice G. & A. Cushway  
3. *Rlc.* Maris Magic A. Sulfaro  
**7. Laeliinae Hybrid (Multifloral/Novelty)** 0 Plants  
**7A. Laeliinae (Novelty Type Hybrid)** 1 Plant  
1. *Rth.* Glenlee Fire R. G. Blaxland  
**8. Laeliinae Miniature** 3 Plants  
1. *Slc.* Angel Flare 'Janelle' x Pot Posella Tokya C. Polis  
2. *Slc.* Angel Flare 'Janelle' x Pot Posella Tokya C. Polis  
3. *Lc.* Tropical Pointer Cheetah A. Sulfaro  
**8A. Laeliinae Epidendrum** 6 Plants  
1. *Epi.* Topaz Sunny 'Bright' M. Asbury  
2. *Epi.* Rose Hot A. Sulfaro  
3. *Epi.* Wedding Valley 'Sakura' M. Asbury  
**9. Cymbidium Standard** 0 Plants  
**10. Cymbidium Intermediate** 0 Plants  
**11. Cymbidium Miniature** 0 Plants  
**12. Dendrobium** 5 Plants  
1. *Den.* Kuniko A. Sulfaro  
2. *Den.* Stardust 'Firebird' R.G. Blaxland  
3. *Den.* Candidum x *Den.* Bensoniae R.G. Blaxland  
**13. Oncidiinae 30mm and less** 3 Plant  
1. *Onc.* Sharry Baby Tricolor G. & A. Cushway  
2. *Onc.* unknown R.G. Blaxland  
3. *Onc.* Splinter N. Macri  
**14. Oncidiinae 30mm - 60mm** 8 Plants  
1. *Onc.* Sharry Baby 'Red Fantasy' I. Luke  
2. *Onc.* Splinter T. Riddell  
3. *Catatanthe* Pumpkin Patch C. Polis  
**15. Oncidiinae 60mm and above** 7 Plants  
1. *Miltoniopsis* Burt Fields 'Leash' I. Luke  
2. *Onc.* Dorothy Wisnom 'Golden Gate' G. & A. Cushway  
3. *Brassia* Rex T. Riddell  
**16. Paphiopedilum Exhibition** 0 Plants  
**17A. Paphiopedilum Novelty** 0 Plants  
**17. Cyripedioideae (Paphs and Prags)** 5 Plants  
1. *Paph.* Transdell R.G. Blaxland  
2. *Prag.* Evening Blaze A. Sulfaro  
3. *Paph.* Satin Smoke I. Luke  
**18. Phalaenopsis Exhibition** 6 Plants  
1. *Phal.* unknown A. Sulfaro  
2. *Drps.* Chain Xen Super Idol cx242 T. Riddell  
3. *Phal.* unknown N. Macri  
**19. Phalaenopsis Novelty** 2 Plants  
1. *Phal.* unknown A. Sulfaro  
2. *Phal.* unknown A. Sulfaro  
**19A. Phalaenopsis Miniature** 3 Plants  
1. *Phal.* unknown A. Sulfaro  
2. *Phal.* Liu's Berry 'Trinity' C. Polis  
2. *Phal.* unknown I. Luke  
**20. Vandaceous >51mm** 0 Plants  
**21. Vandaceous/Ascocendas** 4 Plants  
1. *Vandachostylis* Tropical Coelestis C. Polis  
2. *Vandopsis* Pinky C. Polis  
3. *Vanda* falcata x *Vanda* ampullacea C. Polis  
**22. Other Orchid Hybrid** 2 Plants  
1. *Lyc.* Noriko Tahaki A. Sulfaro  
2. *Lyc.* Shaolhaven A. Sulfaro

### SPECIES

- 38. Sarcophilus Species** 5 Plants  
1. *Sarc. ceciliae* G. Cantor  
2. *Sarc. roseus* G. Cantor  
3. *Sarc. setosus* G. Cantor  
**39. Australian Epiphyte Species** 5 Plants  
1. *Phal. rosenstromii* C. Polis  
2. *Cym. madidum* R. Mathews  
3. *Den. finiganense* G. Cantor  
**40. Australasian Epiphyte Species** 5 Plants  
1. *Den. polysema* 'Yvonne' A. Sulfaro  
2. *Den. atroviolaceum* A. Sulfaro  
3. *Den. bracteosum* A. Sulfaro  
**41. Dockrillia** 3 Plants  
1. *Dock. wassellii* G. Cantor  
2. *Dock. wassellii* T. Riddell  
3. *Dock. wassellii* M. Asbury  
**42. Australasian Terrestrial** 0 Plants  
**43. Laeliinae Alliance (cattleya & laelia)** 6 Plants  
1. *Laelia lobata* 'Jen' C. Polis  
2. *Cat. gaskelliana* P. McDonough  
3. *L. sincorana v. coerulea* P. McDonough  
**43A Laelia Purpurata** 10 Plants  
1. *Laelia purpurata* 'Barbara' L. & B. Dobson  
2. *Laelia purpurata* 'Harlequin' x *purpurata* 'Johnny V Good' G. & A. Cushway  
3. *Laelia purpurata* L. & B. Dobson  
**44. Laeliinae Alliances** 10 Plants  
1. *Encyclia prismatocarpa* 'Galaxy' C. Polis  
2. *Encyclia radiata* B. & L. Dobson  
3. *Myrmecophila albo-purpurea semi-alba* C. Polis  
**45. Oncidiinae Alliance Species** 7 Plant  
1. *Onc. phymatochilum* 'Collaroy Showers' C. Polis  
2. *Brassia verrucosa* P. Johnson  
3. *Miltonia flavescens* P. Johnson  
**46. Maxillaria Species** 6 Plants  
1. *Max. cuculatta* P. McDonough  
2. *Max. cuculatta* P. McDonough  
3. *Max. tenuifolia* T. Riddell  
**47. Other Species 'The Americas'** 6 Plants  
**Species Rest of the World**  
1. *Nageliella angustifolia* L. & B. Dobson  
2. *Pleuro stricta* R.G. Blaxland  
3. *Bifrenaria tyrianthina* C. Polis  
**48. Dendrobium Species** 6 Plants  
1. *Den. officinale* T. Agrela  
2. *Den. thrysiflorum* L. & B. Dobson  
3. *Den. chrysotoxum* C. Polis  
**49. Cyripedioideae (Paph and Prag) Species** 0 Plants  
**50. Phalaenopsis species** 1 Plants  
1. *Phal pantherina* C. Polis  
**51. Vandaceous Species** 6 Plants  
1. *Rhynchostylis retusa* C. Polis  
2. *Renanthera vietnamensis* R.G. Blaxland  
3. *Renanthera monachica* G. Cantor  
**52. Dendrochilum Species** ? Plants  
1. *Ddc. pangasinanense* M. Drummond  
2. *Ddc. gracilie* T. Riddell  
3. *Ddc. unknown* T. Riddell  
**53. Coelogyne Species** 1 Plant  
1. *Coel. flexuosa* R.G. Blaxland  
**54. Other Species 'Asia & the Rest of World'** 3 Plants  
1. *Eria floribunda* M. Drummond  
2. *Bulbo. affine* C. Polis  
3. *Bulbo. makoyanum* C. Polis  
**55. Miniature-maximum height (excluding raceme) of 150mm (6 inches)** 6 Plants  
1. *Pleuro. tribuloides* T. Riddell  
2. *Onc. edwallii* C. Polis  
3. *Dryadella edwallii* T. Riddell  
**56. First Flowering Seedling Species** 1 Plant  
1. *Sarc. rosens* M. Asbury  
**57. First Flowering Seedling Hybrid** 1 Plant  
1. *Enc. (alata x Bumble Bee)* C. Polis

Continued on the next page

**NOVICE**

**23. Australasian Species**

**24. Laeliinae**

- 1. *Cat. purpurata* (Lindl F. Paxton)  
Rollinson ex. Lindl

- 2. *Cat. purpurata* unknown

**25. Oncidiiae**

**26. Any other Species of Americas**

- 1. *Max. tenuifolia*

**27. Species Rest of the World**

- 1. *Vanda curvifolia*
- 2. *Coel. viscosa*
- 3. *Dachilum uncatum*

**28. Australasian Hybrids**

- 1. *Den. engage* x *atroviolaceum*

0 Plants

2 Plants

S. Kirk

S. Thompson

0 Plants

1 Plant

K. Nelson

3 Plants

S. Thompson

E. Henwood

K. Nelson

1 Plant

S. Kirk

**29. Cymbidium Standard**

- 1. *Cym. madidum*

**30. Cymbidium Intermediate & Miniature**

**31. Paphiopedilum Hybrid**

**32. Dendrobium Hybrid**

**33. Laeliinae Hybrid**

- 1. Blc. Lucky Strike x Pink Diamond x  
*Blc. Mahina Yahiro*

- 2. Cat. Drumbeat Heritage

**34. Oncidiiae Allied Intergenerics Hybrid**

- 1. *Miltoniopsis* Breathless Beauty

- 2. *Miltoniopsis* Morris Chestnut

**35. Hybrid of Americas All Other**

**36. Other Orchid Hybrid**

- 1. *Phal* I-Hsin Sesame
- 2. *V. Simitan* x Fuch's Delight

1 Plant

E. Henwood

0 Plants

0 Plants

0 Plants

2 Plants

S. Kirk

S. Kirk

2 Plants

S. Thompson

S. Thompson

0 Plants

2 Plants

S. Thompson

S. Thompson



**Congratulations to all the November winners!**

Photos by B. Dobson



**Hybrid of the Night**



***Den. Nancy Fairfax Natalie AM/AOC***  
Grown by Angie Sulfaro

**Species of the Night**



***Laelia lobata 'Jen'***  
Grown by Cary Polis

**Specimen of the Night**



***Miltonia flavescense***  
Grown by Penny Johnson

**Novice of the Night**



***Miltoniopsis Breathless Beauty***  
Grown by Stephanie Thompson

# MWOS 2025 END OF THE YEAR AWARDS

## Annual Benching Points Scores

### Open Division:

Rank/Member	Points
1. C. Polis	1050
2. A. Sulfaro	762
3. R.G. Blaxland	533
4. G.& A. Cushway	307
5. P. McDonough	300
6. N. Macri	275
7. L.& B. Dobson	192
8. M. Asbury	170
9. R. Mathews	147
10. G. Cantor	142
T. Riddell	142
11. I. Tanner	98
12. I. Luke	87
13. M. Roberts	58
15. M. Drummond	48
14. P. Johnson	51
16. S. Torrisi	38
17. R. Nurthen	34
18. T. Agrela	32
19. M.& F. Lee	26
20. G. Russell	14
21. M. Korzenauski	10
22. G. Le Marne	5

### Novice Division

Member/Rank	Points
1. S. Kirk	229
2. O.& J. Zandstra	148
3. S. Thompson	89
4. A.& T. Evans	67
5. K. Nelson	59
6. G. Wassermeyer	37
7. E. Henswood	28
8. B. Whitaker	19
9. P. Ridzuan	14
10. T. Hamilton	11

### 2025 Open Point Score Winner: Cary Polis



### 2025 Novice Point Score Winner: Sophia Kirk



### 2025 Most Benched Specimen Angie Sulfaro



# OTHER AWARDS

**MWOS  
President's Award  
Nancy Macri**



**MWOS  
Life Members Award  
Lorraine and Bill Dobson**



**MWOS  
Meritorious Service Award  
Tinka Riddell**



**NSW Orchid Society  
Meritorious Service Award  
Paul McDonough**



(Thanks to B. Dobson for the photos)



## *A Holiday Poem and Puzzle*

Enjoy Barney Greer's now 60-year-old holiday poem from 1965, found by our new secretary while going through some old MWOS files. When done, see if you can match the poem's orchid names in red with their photos along the periphery. (answers on the last pg.)

Happy Holidays! from your editors A.& T. Evans

May Christmas bells ring out again  
 Good Cheer to orchid-growing men.  
 May export cymbids blossom early  
 And yours, of course, particularly.  
 May all your seedlings prove to be  
 Deserving of an FCC.

And may the Shows fall nice and handy  
 For your **Odontoglossum grande**.

Assuming you're a bloke who grows 'em  
 May your **Dendrobium speciosum**  
 Have flowers bigger than Hibiscus,  
 On spikes as long as Santa's whiskers.  
 We wish you luck, we do, fair dinkum.

With your **Oncidium ornithorhynchum**.  
 We wish you flowers green and gracious  
 On **Sarcochilus olivaceous**.

And as for your rival's Phalaenopsis  
 We couldn't say we hope he drops his,  
 But if it might give yours a beating  
 We hope it's late for next month's meeting.  
 May seed pods bless your pet Coelogyne  
 With quite fantastic hybrid progeny.

We hope your **D. Chrysotoxum** -  
 Knocks 'em

And that your Zygopetalum  
 Will settle 'em.

Your Phaius and your Densiflorum  
 We hope all judges all adore 'em  
 And that they think there's nothing grander  
 Than your Vanda.

May you get credit from your grocer  
 And for your **Laelia tenebrosa**  
 May your **Oncidium incurvum**  
 Win fifty prizes (you deserve 'em).  
 Good health to you - and no sciatica.

May your **Lycaste aromatica**  
 Perfume your house and make it merrier.  
 May pearls grow on your Bifrenaria  
 And may your pet **Dendrobium nobile**  
 Grow big fat canes – not thin and wobbly.

A Christmas Toast (in Coca-Cola)  
 To you and to your Brassavola.

Or if you like, in Scotch and Soda,  
 To you, your wife, your Cochlioda,

And your **Lycaste virginale**  
 From York, Tom, Edgar, Norm and Charlie



a



b



c



d



e



f



g



h



i



j



## And other things to consider...



### AUCTION 12 APRIL

Time to start searching your bush, cold and hot houses for desirable plants to auction. Please be respectful of your fellow growers and heed the call for **not** entering "shopping centre plants" and posting reasonable reserves. Help maintain our high standards and remember auction marshals will edit out the unrealistic or undesirables. Growers sheets will be distributed late January

## The In-Betweeners

This space will feature plants that didn't make it to the monthly benchings for various reasons. Send your photo, with your and your orchid's name to: [Whatstheproblem.mwos@gmail.com](mailto:Whatstheproblem.mwos@gmail.com).

Two massive submissions this month from Tinka Riddell. On the left her *Den* Bohemian Rhapsody, originated by David Banks in 1995. A primary hybrid cross from the two species *Den.loddigesii* x *Den. aphyllum*. On the right, the floriferous\* *Den. thysiflorum*. (\* producing many flowers) Thanks Tinka for sharing these!



### 2025/26 DIARY DATES

- 18 Dec** Members' Meeting  
(early due to holiday on 25<sup>th</sup>)
- 22 Jan Members' Meeting
- 26 Feb Members' Meeting
- 26 Mar Members' Meeting
- 12 Apr MWOS Auction
- 29 Apr** Members' Meeting  
**A WED, not Thur, due to hall unavailability**

- Holiday Poem and Puzzle Answers**
1. Odontoglossum grande h.
  2. Dendrobium speciosum d
  3. Oncidium ornithorhynchum c
  4. Sarcochilus olivaceus b
  5. D. Chrysotoxum f.
  6. Laelia tenebrosa e.
  7. Oncidium incurvum i.
  8. Lycaste aromatica j
  9. Dendrobium nobile g.
  10. Lycaste virginale a