

WARRINGAL ORCHID SOCIETY INC.



www.warringalorchidsociety.com.au

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**DECEMBER
2025**

All correspondence to be addressed to: The Secretary, 77 Carrington Blvd, Thomastown, Vic. 3074

The next Committee meeting will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday 4TH February 2026
Venue: 77 Carrington Blvd Thomastown.

The Warringal Orchid Society meets at the Watsonia Community Hall,
35 Lambourn Road Watsonia

The next Meeting will be on Wednesday 18th February 2026

Please note: There are **no** regular meetings in December or January. Enjoy the break!

For those who have booked to attend the **Christmas dinner** on 3 December, please see inside the newsletter for details. Check out the super plant auction as well!

Also inside – information about the Summer Photo competition.



*Happy
Holidays*

we wish you joy

Image by mariadetarosarinda on Freepik

CLUB NOTICES

New DNA sought for our Committee

Our small but hard-working committee is much in need of some new DNA, and the hands that go with it, to play a small part in keeping WOS the fantastic club that it is. Currently, the committee is shrinking, and that puts us at risk of losing the strong position we are in as a club. Please consider putting your hand up to join the committee. Please contact a committee member for further information.

Our current committee includes Andrew Fernandez (President), George Dimech (Secretary), Alf Magnano (Treasurer), Helen Robinson (Membership), Bob Pyz (Pots and fertiliser) and Chris Dimech (Committee. And in support, Jerry Karbowlik as Show Manager, and Pam Kennedy, as newsletter editor.



On behalf of all club members, I sincerely thank these hard-working people, and wish them all the very best for the festive season.



New growers group –

New members wishing to develop their orchid-growing skills are welcome to join the New Growers Group conducted by Jason Khoo. This group runs for approximately 30 minutes prior to the start of the monthly meeting, in the back room of the hall.

Monthly meeting - Supper

All members are invited to bring a plate of supper to share at the end of our meeting. We all value this social time, so do not leave it to the same providers every month. Also, please help pack up chairs/tables etc prior to enjoying supper.

Monthly meeting – Setting up

Help is needed to set the hall up for our meeting. The hall is open from 6.00pm. Come early and get to know other members as you help set-up.

Bulletin Postage

Due to increased cost of postage, members wishing for a paper copy of bulletin will incur a \$20.00 annual fee added to their membership. Email copy of bulletin is free of charge.

Warringal Orchid Society QR code



Winding up another great year for Warringal Orchid Society

End-of-year club dinner



Photo by Bob SpringBob54: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/glass-bauble-reflecting-christmas-tree-306864/>

A great chance to finish the year on a high, with your orchid-loving fellow growers.

When? Wednesday 3rd December
(note, this is not our usual club meeting night). Please be seated by 7:00 pm for dinner, doors open earlier!

Where? Watsonia Community Hall,
35 Lambourn Road Watsonia (where we hold our regular club meetings)

Cost? Please note – members attending must have already booked and paid for this event.

What to bring? Members should bring their own drinks, glasses and nibbles - and cutlery, if preferred (bamboo cutlery is provided by caterers). The club caters for a two course meal.

But wait, there's more ... an auction during dinner!

As Andrew outlined in our November meeting, we have added a plant **auction** to this last function of the year. These are plants that have kindly been donated to the club. The following plants will be auctioned during the night – a great chance to add to your collection, so **remember to bring along some \$\$ or credit card**.

AUCTION PLANTS

1 *Sarcochilus falcatus* 'Pink Chin'



2 *Dendrobium Chalex*
(This is an indicative picture only – this is a kingianum cross, purple and white, likely to be similar to this picture.)



3 *Dendrobium Warringul* x Mem John Purvis



AUCTION PLANTS

4 Dendrobium Wayne Turville



5 Dendrobium Andrew Pearson



6 Dendrobium kingianum (Maybe Diva) x speciosum (Royal)



7 Dendrobium Western Point

No picture found for this one, sorry!

8 Dendrobium striolata 'Bourne Free'



9 Dendrobium striolata 'Tassie Gold x Gold Strike'



10 Dendrobium striolata 'Tassie Gold' x 'Gold Strike'



11 Dendrobium striolata 'Tassie Gold' x 'Gold Strike'



12 Dendrobium striolata 'Ruffles'



And in case you missed it ... our end of year BBQ at Chris and George's house



And we celebrated Elizabeth's birthday (the Sponge Queen had to bring her own cake, which was delicious!)



Thanks once again to Chris and George for hosting this lovely event.

PROGRESSIVE SCORES –2025 FINAL SCORES

OPEN		ADVANCED NOVICE	
M. Coker	463	K Trueman	121
A. Rogers	198	Z Giavris	79
G & C. Dimech	170	A&S La Rocca	59
K Lam	88	G Sullivan	35
A Magnano	82	J Wong	26
D Wain	62	I Katis	24
E & D Baxter	60	F Verlaan	20
M Mally	54	Z Saleras	9
A. Fernandez	53		
S Pantelejenko	48	NOVICE	
J Khoo	45	K Lee	98
M Bastecky	36	K Sloane	38
J & L Karbownik	35	R Cooper	33
G Browning	31	A Angerossa	27
B Duncan	31	A Duerden	21
T & A Pleitner	26	G Benson	16
C Krolikowski	23	D Parry	15
S & H Randall	20	T Honson	9
F & J Spiteri	18	D Patrikakos	9
J Sharam	13	D Hetterachchi	7
Le Tan Leip	13	F Walton	6
M & N Truong	8	D Tse	4
N Meggetto	7	R Boschen	3
H Venter	3	K Littleboy	2
		I Neary	1
		D Westhead	1
INTERMEDIATE			
P Kennedy	149		
M. Volodina	69		
M Grzan	62		
S Grzinic	61		
J Kremer	32		
L Smith	12		
L & A Shepherd	8		
F & T Nguyen	8		

Congratulations to all section winners, and many thanks to all who participated by bringing in their plants to show.



BARBARA DUGGAN , ONE OF OUR MEMBERS, IS RELOCATING SOON TO BALLARAT, AND HAS SOME PLANTS THAT CANNOT GO WITH HER TO HER NEW HOME. THEY INCLUDE A TREE FERN, UMBRELLA TREE, CONIFERS AND PARLOUR PALMS. ANYONE INTERESTED CAN CONTACT BARB BY MOBILE 0409 548 456 OR EMAIL BARB5519@BIGPOND.COM

JUDGING RESULTS - NOVEMBER 2025 meeting

OPEN

Aust. Native Species

1 st Den. fleckeri	B Duncan
2 nd Sarc. olivaceus	T&A Pleitner
3 rd Cym. canaliculatum	T&A Pleitner

Aust. Native Hybrid

1 st Sarc. Kulnura Now	A Rogers
2 nd Sarc. Cherie 'Dark Midget' x 'Torrents'	A Rogers
3 rd Sarc. Burgundy on Ice 'Red Eye'	G&C Dimech

Novelty Cattleya

1 st Rlc. Katherine Clarkson x Mark Jones	M Coker
2 nd Lc. Gold Digger 'Orchid Glade'	G&C Dimech
3 rd Sc. Dals Tradition x Bls. Love Sound	A Fernandez

Masdevallia Species

1 st Masd. Coccinea f. alba 'Blanca'	M Mally
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Masdevallia Hybrid

1 st Masd. Super nova 'Perfect'	M Coker
2 nd Masd. Stripe King 'No 3'	A Rogers

Miniature Cymbidium

1 st Cym. Sunburst Finish	T&A Pleitner
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Phalaenopsis

1 st Phal. Shingles Purple Strip	M Bastecky
2 nd Phal. Penang Girl	M Coker

Dendrobium

1 st Den. Snowflake x Dorrigo	A Rogers
2 nd Den. Stardust	M Coker
3 rd Den. Stardust	M Mally

Paphiopedilum

1 st Paph. Big Smile x Thunder World	M Coker
2 nd Paph. Irish Tiger 'Diablo'	M Coker

Maudiae Paphiopedilum

1 st Paph. Red Luther x Red Macabre	M Coker
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Novelty Paphiopedilum

1 st Paph. Stoke Pages x primulinum	M Coker
2 nd Paph. Franz Glanz	M Coker
3 rd Paph. Magic Lantern	M Coker

Species Paphiopedilum

1 st Paph. delenati	M Coker
2 nd Paph. mastersianum	M Coke

Oncidium

1 st Onc. Hambuhren Stern	A Rogers
2 nd Onc. Jungle Monarch 'Own Select'	G&C Dimech
3 rd Beallara Tahoma 'Glacier Green pagane'	M Bastecky

Miltonia

1 st Mps. Breathless 'Brilliant'	M Coker
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Lycaste

1 st Lyc. No ID	M Bastecky
2 nd Lyc. Milpera	M Mally

Any Other Hybrid

1 st Phrag. April Fool	M Coker
2 nd Aerth. Grandiose x Aerth. ramosa	G&C Dimech
3 rd Phrag. Jason Fischer	M Coker

Species - Any Genera

1 st Den. tapiniense	M Coker
2 nd Den. amabile	M Coker
3 rd Cuitlauzina pendula	G&C Dimech

Seedling Flowering First Time

1 st Sarc. Gabrielle x Heidi	J Khoo
2 nd Sarc. Olivaceus	T&A Pleitner
3 rd Sarc. Sarc. Duno Wickys Twin x cenendra	A Fernandez

Best in Section – Open

Den. tapiniense
Grown by M Coker



Dendrobium tapiniense is an orchid species identified by TM Reeve in 1980. This medium to large sized, cool growing epiphytic orchid is found in Papua & New Guinea at elevations of 1500 to 1950 meters. It has stocky, furrowed, basally tapering, 9 noded stems carrying 2, elliptic, apical leaves that blooms on a 10 to 15 cm long, 10-15 flowered inflorescence carrying long-lasting, stiff, fleshy flowers that arise from the apex of the cane. A slight lessening of water and fertilizer is beneficial and should only be resumed with the onset of new

growth in the spring. If a pot is used it should be just large enough to contain the roots otherwise a mount of tree-fern or cork is best if humidity is high and water is applied daily through the hot summer months.

INTERMEDIATE

Aust. Native Species

1st Den. linguiforme P Kennedy

Aust. Native Hybrid

1st Sarc. Kulnura Secure 'Shapely' x Kulnura Pass Pepperi M Grzan
 2nd Sarc. Judith x P. triendata green J Kremer
 3rd Sarc. Duno Nickys Twin x Gerda 'Two Tone' J Kremer

Phalaenopsis

1st Phal. Unknown S Grzinic

Dendrobium

1st Den Nagasaki S Grzinic
 2nd Den. 1160 Unicum x Golden Blossom 'Lemon Heart' M Grzan

Lycaste

1st Lyc. Macama 'Jenny Wren' M Volodina
 2nd Lyc. Caroline 'Dragon Lady' P Kennedy
 3rd Lyc. Longiscapa x Lyc. (Wyld Wine x Aphrodite) P Kennedy

Species - Any Genera

1st Den. nobbile S Grzinic

Seedling Flowering First Time

1st Sarc. Olivaceus J Kremer

Best in Section – Intermediate

Lyc. Macama 'Jenny Wren'
 Grown by M Volodina



Lycaste Macama 'Jenny Wren' is a beautiful hybrid lycaste with large full shaped round pale green and white flowers. Deciduous.

Seedling flowering first time

Sarc. Olivaceus
 Grown by J Kremer



Sarcocochilus olivaceus is an orchid species identified by Lindl. in 1839. Its currently accepted name of Sarcocochilus parviflorus. It is found in Queensland and New South Wales in moist shady areas close to creeks in rainforest or in sheltered gullies near open woodland or on rocks at elevations of 10 to 900 meters.

It is a miniature sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte or lithophyte with a short stem enveloped completely by imbricate, leaf bearing sheaths with each carrying lanceolate, subacute, basally clasping leaves. It blooms in the winter through early summer on an axillary, 10 cm long, several flowered inflorescence with fragrant flowers about 2.5cm across.

ADVANCED NOVICE

Aust. Native Species

1st Sarc. Hartmannii Z Giavris

Aust. Native Hybrid

1st Sarc Fitzhart '769 Red' x '769 Red' I Katis
 2nd Sarc Heidi x Melody Z Giavris
 3rd Sarc. Fairy Scarlet x Fitzhart Magenta Z Giavris

Miniature Cymbidium

1st Cym. Sarah Jean 'Amanda' F Verlaan

Dendrobium

1st Den. Unicum x Golden Blossom 'Lemon Heart' S&A La Rocca
 2nd Den. Hamana Lake 'Dream' K Trueman
 3rd Den. Stardust J Wong

Oncidium

1st Wils. Kolibri K Trueman
 2nd Onc. Taylor Barfield K Trueman

Lycaste

1st Lyc. Alwine Miller I Katis

2nd Lyc. Macama I Katis

Any Other Hybrid

1st C. cariadis Mini Quinee x K Trueman

2nd Zygo. Freestyle Meadow 'Show Stopper' x crinitum 'Loddiges' K Trueman

3rd Zygo. Artur Elle x Aurte Evans I Katis

Species - Any Genera

1st Den. scoriarum J Wong

2nd Den. thyriflorum I Katis

Seedling Flowering First Time

1st Zygo. Happy Meadows x crinitum I Katis

Best in Section – Advanced Novice

Sarc. Hartmannii
Grown by Z Giavris



Sarc. Hartmannii is an eastern Australian, small to medium sized, cool to hot growing, lithophytic and sometimes epiphytic species found on exposed cliffs at altitudes up to 1000 meters, near to the sea.

It is vandaceous in form, with numerous, stout, erect stems carrying 6 to 8, thick, fleshy, oblong-lanceolate, falcate, obliquely emarginate or acute leaves that blooms on a erect to arcuate, reddish, axillary, 3 to 10 [6 to 25 cm] long, several to many [up to 25] flowered inflorescence that is longer than the leaves, occurring in the spring and has non-fragrant flowers. They can be mounted or grown in a pot with regular water and fertilizer while in growth; as they mature, a lessening is desirable.

NOVICE

Any Other Hybrid

1st Dtps. Ching Hau Magic x Phal. Taisuco Kochdian K Lee

2nd Tolv. Asternova Sunspot x Willowbank Strawberry Daphne K Lee

Aust. Native Species or hybrid

1st Sarc. Kulnura Ruby 'Marble Delight' x Yvette 'Pink Dappled' R Cooper

2nd Sarc. Tin Yin Lara x Lyn A Angerosa

3rd Sarc. Fizzy Dove R Cooper

Seedling Flowering First Time

1st Sarc. Rebecca 'Tangerine' x Karla 'Crimson' R Cooper

Best in Section – Novice

Sarc. Kulnura Ruby 'Marble Delight' x Yvette 'Pink Dappled'
Grown by R Cooper



President's Choice

Den. fleckeri
Grown by B Duncan



Dendrobium fleckeri is an orchid species identified by Rupp & C.T.White in 1937. Found in Queensland Australia in rainforests near mountain tops at elevations of 800 to 1500 meters in patchy forests with mist, dew, fogs and low clouds are common as a small sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte or at

higher elevations a miniature sized lithophyte with erect to nearly pendulous rugose with age, apically leafy canes with thin, ovate leaves and blooms in the late winter through early summer on a .4 to .8" [1 to 2 cm] long, 1 to 3 flowered inflorescence which emerge from the apical nodes of the stem and carries a few [to 3], spicily fragrant flowers.

The smaller [4" or less] spindlier type is found growing lithophytically on exposed rock while the larger [to 12"] more robust type is found in deep shade in forests.

A cooler drier winter is beneficial for proper growth and flowering which occurs in the spring and early summer.



Image by kjpargeter on Freepik

Wishing all at Warringal Orchid Society the very best for 2026.

The summer photo competition is back!

We don't have any meetings for the two months over the summer break, but we know that your orchids keep growing away, blooming and sometimes surprising us! We don't want these orchids to be 'out of sight' to other members, so the club will be running the photo competition once more.



What you need to do ...first

- ✓ Find that orchid hiding in your collection that is just bursting to show off on your behalf.
- ✓ Get out your phone or camera and take the **best picture you can of your plant/orchid** (Andrew tells me the better quality the picture, the more likely you are to win)
- ✓ Get someone to take a **picture of you with your flowering plant**, just to show who this stunning plant belongs to!
- ✓ Make sure you have the plant's full name, ready for submitting your entry.



What you need to do ... next

There are two ways to submit your entry/entries:

<p>Load your entry onto WOS Facebook page:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Go to our Facebook page✓ Look for the link to the Summer Photo Competition 2025✓ You will see a small camera icon under the ad for the competition – click on it✓ Find the two photos in your file and press download (or is it upload?)✓ Enter the plant's name and your name into the Comments section✓ Hit Enter	<p>OR</p>	<p>Send your entry by email (for luddites like me who are not on Facebook):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Email to Andrew Fernandez on demues@outlook.com with the Subject: Summer Photo Competition 2025✓ Include the name of the plant and your name in the body of the email✓ Attach the two photos (best picture of the orchid <u>and</u> one of you with orchid)✓ Hit the send button and Andrew will do the rest for you!
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You can submit more than one entry if your orchid house is full of blooming plants.

What happens then?

Entries can be submitted up until the first committee meeting of the New Year, which is scheduled for Wed 5 February. So maybe make sure you have your photos in by 1 February, especially if you are emailing photos to Andrew.

The committee will decide the winner at their February meeting - remember the committee will only consider entries which have both photos.

The winner will be announced at our February Club meeting.

Remember, you have to be in it to win it. Good luck!

And a little summer reading to finish your year ...

This article comes from *The Guardian*, 15 Oct 2025. Author, Paul Simons. See

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2025/oct/15/plantwatch-rhizanthella-an-extraordinary-orchid-that-lives-and-flowers-underground>

Plantwatch: An extraordinary orchid that lives and flowers underground: Botanist trying to conserve highly vulnerable rhizanthella that survives by feeding on nutrients from a fungus

Rhizanthella is an extraordinary orchid that lives its entire life underground. It flowers below ground, has no leaves and survives by feeding on nutrients from a fungus that gets its food from the soil and by connecting with roots of the broom bush, *Melaleuca uncinata*.



Rhizanthella was an international sensation when it was first discovered by a farmer ploughing a field in Western Australia in 1928. It still remains incredibly difficult to find, usually by searching areas with the right habitat and carefully scraping away soil searching for the blooms buried underneath – tiny reddish flowers wrapped in creamy-pink bracts. The blooms also have a heady scent of vanilla, and may be pollinated by termites or tiny flies.

There are five species of Rhizanthella, all of them among the rarest orchids in the world. With very few surviving plants they are highly vulnerable to extinction after suffering loss of habitat and drought caused by climate breakdown.

But the botanist Kingsley Dixon at the University of Western Australia is urgently trying to conserve the orchid by growing the fungus with the orchid seed in a lab and transferring them to *Melaleuca* bushes grown in pots.

Interested in reading further about this? Check out another article from the BBC, see

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20250925-the-race-to-save-the-worlds-rarest-orchid>



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