



The Australasian Native Orchid Society The Warringah Group Inc.

Patron:
Mick Korzenowski

ABN: 84 245 695 380

PRESIDENT: Trish Peterson 0412 568 985 trishpet@hotmail.com
SECRETARY: Bruce Potter 0407 452 392 bjfpotter@gmail.com
TREASURER: Ela Kielich 0434 843 037 elak@internode.on.net
EDITOR: Bill Dobson 0409 545 955 bdobson@optusnet.com.au

COMMITTEE: Judith Barry (Librarian), Jane D'Olier, Peter D'Olier, Cary Polis, Bill Dobson, Ian Tanner.

Web Administrator: Jane D'Olier **Website:** <https://www.anoswarringah.org.au/> **Facebook:** [ANOS - The Warringah Group Inc](#)

CORRESPONDENCE: PO Box 421, Forestville NSW 2087

Monthly Meetings: 3rd Tuesday at 8:00 pm - Senior Citizens Hall, Starkey Street, Forestville

October 2021



Phaius tankervilleae Cameron Lanceley



Erythrorchis cassythoides Chris Murray



Dockrillia linguiformis L & B Dobson

**No Meeting this month
due to COVID-19 lockdown.**



Dockrillia hepatica x cucumerina Cameron Lanceley



Erythrorchis cassythoides Chris Murray



Sarcochilus aequalis L & B Dobson



Den. normanbyense x polysema Ela Kielich



Den. Jayden Ela Kielich



Den. Gowan's Tangelo Ela Kielich

In My Bushhouse

Well the *Dendrobium speciosum* season has come and gone for me, but the flowering in the bushhouse has not stopped as *Dockrillia* season is still in swing with *striolata*, *schoenina*, *pugioniformis*, *calamiformis*, *nugentii* and *linguiformis* all flowering now. Also the natural hybrid of *Dockrillia pugioniformis* and *striolata* = *Dockrillia* Duffy. I was privileged to see this some years ago in the wild with both species flowering together and the progeny in flower as well.

Some other plants coming into flower are *Den. jonesii* var. *magnificum*, *Den. fleckeri* (very early), and *Sarcochilus aequalis*, I have a couple of plants out now. *Bulbophyllum gadgarrense* is just finishing as is *Bulbo. wadsworthii* both of which brought back fond memories of trips to Tully Falls and Mt Baldy in Far North Queensland. I have no idea when we will get back there. The next significant flowering is the *Sarcochilus falcatus*, *Sarcochilus hartmannii* and *Sarcochilus fitzgeraldii* with *Sarcochilus niveus* due out towards the end of October. Of course the *Sarcochilus* hybrids are having their inflorescences shooting towards the heavens and all the colours they will exhibit. For a species person I can hardly wait.

I have spent the past few days cutting off the old inflorescences from my plants and potting up has started in earnest after a very weak attempt last year. I'm also changing my potting mix after many years as I find I just can't handle the bags from AusGrow at 25kg a bag. While I'm happy to support Australian companies I have no option so I'm using ORCHIATA bark from NZ. Also, I don't have to order and shift a tonne of bark at a time and my back thanks me for this. The only problem I have had with the AusGrow bark over the last 20 years of use is the introduction of slugs and for a couple of years small grasshoppers which I believe laid their eggs in the mix in SA. I won't miss them at all as apart from a little dust and an excess of wood chip it looks OK. Time will tell I'm sure and so will I.

At this same time, I'm going to remove the Styrene beads that I have been using for the last 20+ years, the environmentalists will thank me, I think. In the meantime, I am adding clay balls to the mix to keep the mix open to allow the same amount of air space in the mix. I have three sizes of bark 9-12, 14-18, and 18-25 and mix these together depending on the plant size that I am potting up.

I find that ORCHIATA bark will need to be washed and I still use the 'Magic Formula' on this (look it up on our website) as it gives the plant a little feed to get going. I also use a sprinkle of Osmocote Pro Low P 8 - 9 months (16 - 1.3 - 13.3 + 1.8Mg + TE Slow-release Fertiliser for Native plants). I use one half of an Initiator tablet which is a systemic plant insecticide & fertilizer formulated to release active ingredient gradually and to provide a highly targeted protection against insect damage & enhance growth. Then apply a small covering of 9-12 bark no more than 5-10mm thick. Later in the year, nearer to flowering time, especially for the plants outside, I will sprinkle with SlugOut®.

SlugOut® is highly effective at controlling slugs and snails. SlugOut® has superior coverage resulting in increased control. Highest concentrate of active ingredient per pellet. Excellent rainfast performance in wet conditions. Versatile application that is dust free and safe to use.

I have cleaned up the growing area and potting up and dividing plants. I have mapped out a programme for the next 5 months and to maximise growing and looking forward to the flowering in 2022.

Good growing Bill Dobson

-o0o-



Den. speciosum Hybrid Ela Kielich



Diuris sulphurea x orientis Judith Barry



Den. speciosum var. *pedunculatum* Ela Kielich



Den. Hawaii Spectacular Ela Kielich

Rates of Use

I add this here just to jog your memory as some have asked me what the recommended rate is for a product . Here are some of the common ones. If you need more information Alan Merriman wrote a helpful book.

Eco-Seaweed®	5g per liter
Seasol®	3ml per liter
Eco-Fungicide®	4g per liter
Eco-Neem®	2ml per liter with Eco-Oil at 5g per liter
Eco-Oil®	5ml per liter
Mancozeb®	2g per liter



Sarcocochilus falcatus L & B Dobson



Dendrobium beetle, and with the warmer weather they have come out right when I have started to spray, although I found this one on my *Neobenthamia gracilis*, and then 3 on one of my *Cymbidium canaliculatum* on the clothes line. They have since been beheaded. So the message is spray or pray.

Australian Orchid Nursery
<https://www.australianorchids.com.au/>



I love the Australian humor and this was chalked on a board as we went around some wineries in South Australia in late April early May this year. Didn't know how lucky we were at the time as we went to Mudgee, Broken Hill, Glenelg SA, Mt Gambier, Ballarat Vic, Beachworth and on to home. Lots of things we saw in all states and yet more much more of this country to explore which we hope you all get to do. Personally I'm waiting to get back to Queensland where we haven't been for the last 2 years. So next year it will be exploring more of NSW and hopefully QLD. Start planning now so you can meet your goals. Where do you plan to go next year or in 2023?

Bill

Mounts for your orchids or Not!

Something I have been looking at over the last decade is mounts and pots. For years I used tree fern mounts in hard and soft with very limited success. So apart for a couple of plants left I have discontinued use of this. It may suit some growers but not me and my conditions. Cork is another that I use in limited quantities. It is long lasting and a great many genera can be grown on it. It doesn't seem to get any bugs and is easy to shape. The best way to use it we have found is to cut the hard, inner, layer of the bark and use this face, the opposite of what you would normally think. Also I round the edges to make it easier for the roots to wind themselves around. Further it can be used as a raft (horizontal) or a mount (vertical) as the occasion and plant dictate. I have also cut grooves in a diagonal crisscross pattern and the roots of the plants seem to love this. However, cork has become an expensive item as last time I purchased a bale, equivalent to 2 x 50 litre bags of pine bark, it cost me \$500

The next thing I have been using for over 10 years is 16-20mm wooden dowelling, particularly in Cyprus Pine as this seems to deter insects. I have found that *Plectorrhiza tridentata* in particular loves this as does *Sarcochilus falcatus*. Do not cut it too short as you will need about 50cm which will give plenty of room for the roots to run up down and around. You could use cedar but is difficult to obtain and expensive. The dowelling does work well and I have numerous plants that are specimen size. The plants can be initially tied on with fishing line, stapled and even glued with hot melt as they all seem to work as is akin to how they are in the wild.

The thing that did surprise me is the use of Port Pots 80mm mesh pots for growing *Sarcochilus falcatus* and *Dendrobium aemulum*. With *Sarcochilus falcatus* the root growth using these is staggering as I use just medium bark and just pop the plant in. Plants that were growing, just, on cork or hardwood are now thriving in these pots. They don't dry out as they do when mounted but do not say wet either. You can pop in the top or on the side of the pot or cut a hole in the side and pop the plant in there. I just add some blood and bone and a little slow release fertiliser when potting up which would be impossible when mounting, so this may be an advantage.

The plant that surprised me to pot up was *Dendrobium aemulum*. Sometimes this would struggle on a mount but in a pot it just races away. Perhaps again with some fertilizer blood and bone added and the bark just keeps some moisture around the roots without being wet. These look 100% better than the ones that are mounted.

Anyway just my observations, may be good for you.

Bill Dobson

-o0o-



Dendrobium aemulum L & B Dobson



Sarcochilus falcatus L & B Dobson

A local Bushwalk

If you go walking in the bush at the moment, there are plenty of flowering orchids to look out for. Flying Ducks (*Caleana major*), Beardies (*Calochilus* sp.) and Sun Orchids (*Thelymitra* sp.) can be spotted alongside trails in the dry forest and scrubby areas. The photo attached is of a Black Hooded Sun Orchid- *Thelymitra atronitida* and an interesting white *Thelymitra peniculata*. Some Tangle Orchids, *Plectorhiza tridentata*, are in flower at the moment clinging to Water Gums beside the creeks and tributaries of the Hawkesbury. These damper spots may include some Ant orchids) *Chiloglottis* sp.??

In higher dry areas and if you are lucky, you may stumble across the Black Bootlace Orchid (*Erythrorchis cassythoides*) that are coming to the end of their flowering season. The one in the photo is around 5 metres (16 feet) high, the tallest I have seen. The rainforest *Dendrobium aemulum* have been flowering well this year along with *Dendrobium linguiforme* (*Dockrillia linguiformis*).

I am looking forward to now extending my bushwalks to outside of my LGA! It is worth noting that by far, the majority of these photos were not taken in national parks, but in local reserves and parks. You don't need to go on a large bushwalk to see most of these.

Chris Marshall

-oOo-



Thelymitra peniculata Chris Murray



Caleana major Chris Murray



Thelymitra atronitida Chris Murray



Chiloglottis sp. Chris Murray



Calochilus sp. Chris Murray



Dendrobium aemulum Chris Murray



Erythrorchis cassythoides Chris Murray



Dockrillia linguiformis Chris Murray



Erythrorchis cassythoides Chris Murray



Plechorriza tridentata Chris Murray



Dockrillia pugioniformis Trish Peterson

Repotting a Monster

It's approaching that time of year to repot which I didn't do a lot of last year. However sometimes a plant seems to escape our attention or we put it off as too hard or 'let it go for another year'.

Well this plant *Dendrobium speciosum* var. *grandiflorum* 'Creek Aureum' which I got from Gerry Walsh in 2011 (thanks Gerry) is one of them.

I repotted it in 2011, 2012 and then again in 2013 then today! Certainly the reason I had been putting it off up to now was that I was having trouble lifting it. I got out my axe then decided that wasn't going to cut it (pun intended). So I reached for my reciprocating saw. I wonder why I haven't used this before it cut like a hot knife thru butter.

The other thing that was apparent was that the roots were very healthy and the bark, over 10 years in the centre was quite good. However, I have never had a problem with bark 'going off' with the mix that I use.

I only lost 5 pseudobulbs but ended with 4 huge plants in 300 mm Port Pots. So much for cutting down the collection. Anyway very happy with 4 huge plants and looking forward to flowering in 2022.





Dendrobium canaliculatum Cameron Lanceley



Dockrillia Waverley Charm Cameron Lanceley



Phaius tankervillae Cameron Lanceley



Dendrobium fleckeri David Hemmings



Dendrobium fleckeri David Hemmings



Dendrobium Flinders FFS David Hemmings



Dendrobium tetragonum var. *tetragonum* David Hemmings



Bulbophyllum bracteatum Erik Lielkajis



Dendrobium lichenastrum Erik Lielkajis



Dockrillia racemosa Erik Lielkajis



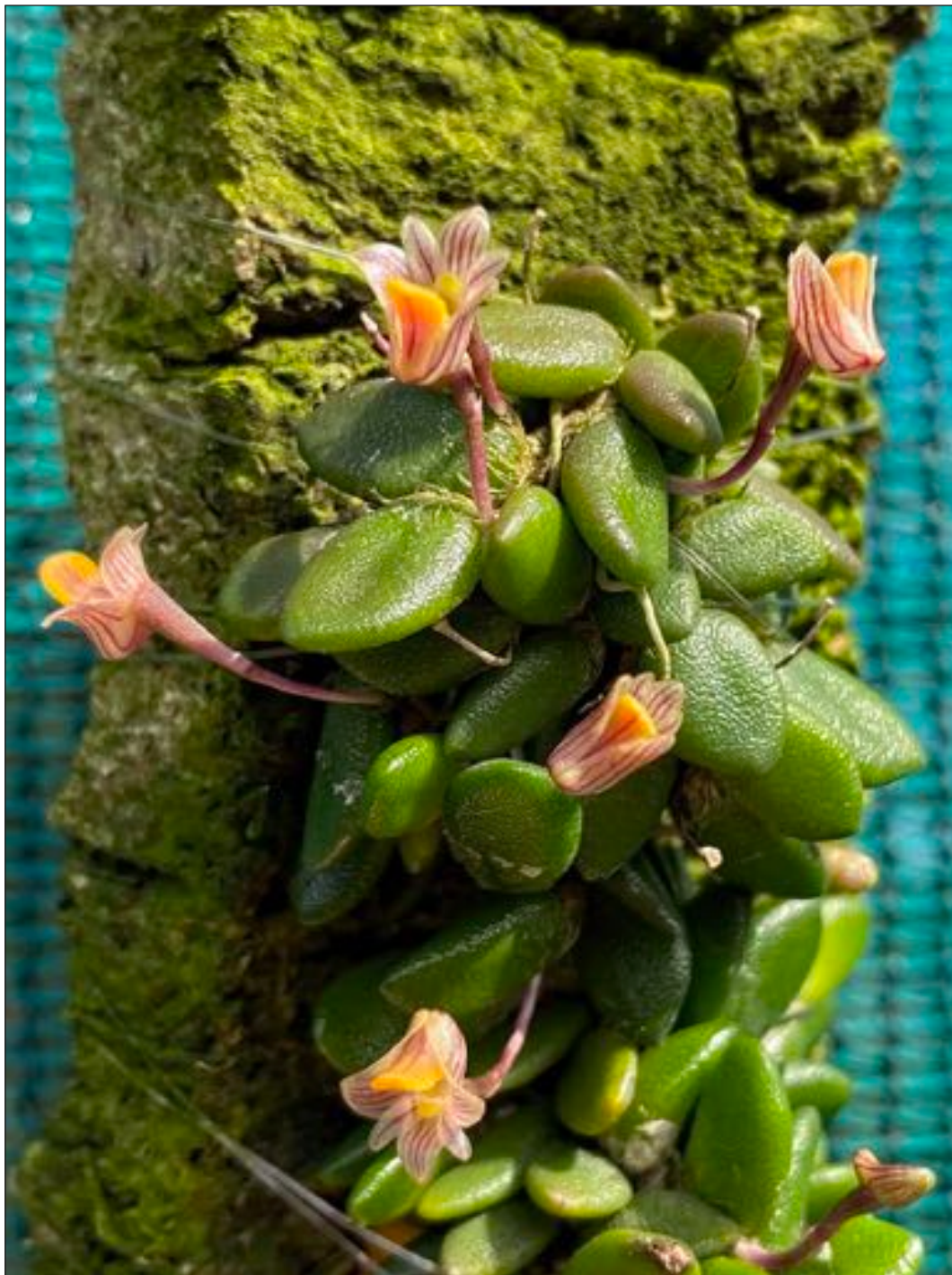
Acriopsis emarginata Erik Lielkajis



Bulbophyllum nematopodum Erik Lielkajis



Sarcochilus hartmannii 'Stewart' x 'Brendan' Trish Peterson



Dendrobium lichenastrum David Hemmings



Dendrobium chordiformis David Hemmings



Dockrillia linguiformis David Hemmings



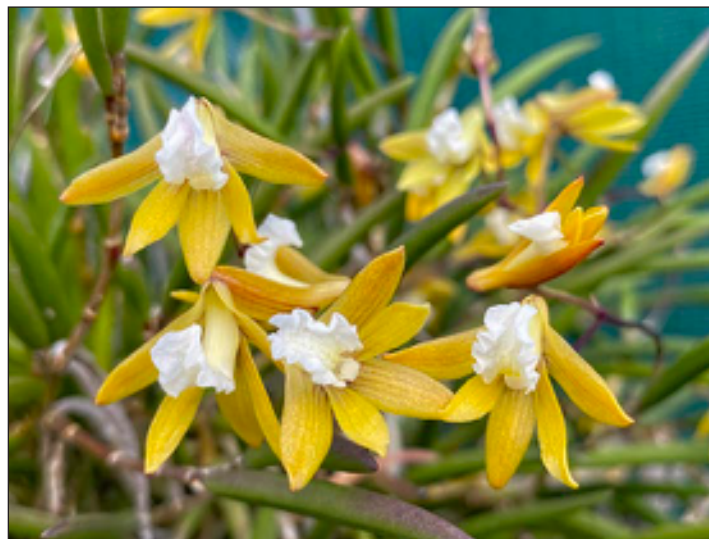
Dockrillia linguiformis David Hemmings



Dockrillia schoenina 'Pretty Perfume' x 'White Fog' David Hemmings



Dockrillia schoenina 'Painted Lady' x 'White Fog' David Hemmings



Dockrillia striolata 'Tassie Gold' x 'Gold Strike' David Hemmings



Dockrillia striolata 'Ruffles' David Hemmings



Dockrillia schoenina 'Pretty Perfume' x 'White Fog' David Hemmings



Dockrillia striolata 'Tassie Gold' x 'Gold Strike' David Hemmings



Dockrillia Tweetas David Hemmings



Sarco. Yvette Red x spatulatus David Hemmings



Sarco. Yvette Red x spatulatus David Hemmings



Sarcochilus falcatus David Hemmings



Sarcochilus falcatus David Hemmings



Dockrillia sulphurea x hepatica Trish Peterson



Dendrobium monophyllum Trish Peterson



Dendrobium monophyllum Trish Peterson



Doc. Australian Yum Yum Trish Peterson



Dockrillia chordiformis Trish Peterson





Doc. Papuan Delight 'Ginger Falls' Trish Peterson



Dockrillia linguiformis Trish Peterson



Plectorrhiza tridentata Trish Peterson



Dockrillia linguiformis Trish Peterson



Doc. Duffy Trish Peterson



Plectorrhiza tridentata Trish Peterson



Sarco. Amber x Topaz 'Apricot' Trish Peterson



Plchs. Richard Jost Trish Peterson



Sarco. Allora Trish Peterson



Sarco. Bunyip x Sweethart Trish Peterson



Sarco. Cenendra 'Scarlet' Trish Peterson



Sarco. Dove 'Good' x Fairy Scarlet Trish Peterson



Sarcochilus falcatus Trish Peterson



Sarcochilus falcatus Trish Peterson



Sarcophilus falcatus Trish Peterson



Sarco. Fitzhart 'Rusty Bucket' Trish Peterson



Sarcophilus hartmannii 'Red Snow' Trish Peterson



Sarcophilus hartmannii 'Red Snow' x 'Roberta' Trish Peterson



Sarco. Kulnura Roundup 'Multispot' x Kulnura Absolute 'Dot'
Trish Peterson



Sarcochilus hillii Trish Peterson



Sarcochilus Hybrid NOID Trish Peterson



Sarco. Roberta 'Good Yellow' x Ice Magic Trish Peterson