

# **FIVE DOCK RSL ORCHID SOCIETY INC OCTOBER 2024 BULLETIN**

Meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in the months of January to November.  
at Concord Community Centre, 1A Gipps Street, Concord, NSW 2137  
The Society was founded on 19<sup>th</sup> July 1967.



**Society Emblem: *Dendrobium Fivedock Fire* 'Summertime'**

Next meeting will be held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024 commencing at 7.40 pm.

Five Dock RSL Orchid Society is proudly supported by.

Club Five Dock RSL, Canada Bay Council and MarketPlace Leichhardt Shopping Centre

Visit our website [www.fivedockorchids.com](http://www.fivedockorchids.com) for photos of the winning orchids from our Monthly and Annual Shows, Plants of the Night, Class winners, Show Champions, and record of our Social Events.

**PATRON: Robert Ridge**

**PRESIDENT: Kathy Koutsoukis Mobile: 0401 951 211**

**SECRETARY: Robert Moon Mobile: 0412 335 349**

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**TREASURER: Margaret Reavell**

**VICE PRESIDENT: Fedora Pristov**

**COMMITTEE: Peter Booth Dorothy Booth Jane D'Olier Sharon McIlwain**

**Peter D'Olier Merv Maher Jonathan Tran**

**Website Coordinator: Jane D'Olier**

## **Presidents Report**

I am sorry that I will not be at our October 2024 monthly meeting, but I would like all the members and committee to know, how happy I was to hear how everyone worked together for both Five Dock RSL Orchid Society & Orchids Central Show

A special thank you to Sharon & Jonathan who staged the Five Dock display and scored Third Place. Which was terrific considering neither had staged a display before. It was helped by members benching their plants to add quality to the display.

Could I ask any members that still have Perpetual Trophies to please bring them to the October 2024 meeting.

Our Annual Presentation Night and Christmas Party is rapidly approaching. We need to finalise numbers and the cost this year will be \$30 for members & \$35 for non-members and any special dietary requirements to advise the caterers in advance of the party

In view of last year's successful Hawaiian Shirt Contest, which was a lot of fun, we will be holding it again this year. So, remember to wear those Hawaiian Shirts for the contest

Hope to see you at our November meeting when I get back from holidays

**Kathy Koutsoukis**

**FIVE DOCK RSL ORCHID SOCIETY INC**  
**Minutes of the Monthly General Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024,**  
**at Concord Community Centre, 1A Gipps Street, Concord**

**Opening:**

The Vice President declared the meeting open at 7.40pm and welcomed all members and guests. Fedora then requested all those present to either turn their mobile phones off or to silent.

**Apologies:**

Apologies were as listed on the attendance sheet.

**Minutes:**

It was moved that Minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2024 as circulated, be adopted as a true and correct record of that night's proceedings.

Moved Robyn McEwan

Seconded Louisa Campagna      Carried

**Business arising:**

There was no business arising from the minutes

**Correspondence:**

The Secretary summarised and tabled various Orchid Society Newsletters, upcoming Orchid Events, Open Gardens information from the Garden Clubs Australia and brochures promotions of various "Garden" & Orchid tours.

**Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer's monthly report and accounts for payment were held over in the Treasurer's absence but the meeting was advised we were solvent & could meet all our known liabilities.

**General Business:**

The Vice President asked if everyone present had signed the attendance register for insurance purposes, Covid 19 tracing, and the lucky badge draw.

Fedora presented Lisa Harris with her Society Badge

The Vice President requested that members volunteer for assisting the vendors setting up on Thursday at Orchid Central & also on our day for Security on Saturday and reminded members as we are one of the Societies that will financially benefit from a successful show, we need to put in the effort to help it succeed.

Fedora advised that she & Kathy will be taking a well-earned holiday next month and asked members to help with supper next month in their absence.

Fedora then presented the prize and plant sales monies to the members

The meeting Broke for Supper

**Lecture**

Fedora introduced Jan Robertson for her presentation on "Water well or not so well"

Jan started by explaining that water well pots was a generic term for pots that are not free draining and explained they have in a 200mm pot a ridge which can hold up to 60ml of water and then went on to show DIY versions that she had used. Jan then asked the question why use a water well pot? The answer was it was trendy.

Jan explained she had tried with some success many different genera including Coelogyne, Lycastes, Oncidiums, Nobile Dendrobiums, Masdevallias, and Sarcochilus. Obviously, they cannot be used for Stanhopeas.

Jan showed her growing conditions with a Polycarbonate roof that prevents rain drenching the plants and only get what water she chooses to give them.

Jan then explained how the pot is set up by using “pebbles” or terracotta balls in the well with mesh layered over them to prevent clogging. Jan then explained that for best results do not overpot but tend to “crowd” the roots for best results. Do not over cramp down as you could break the roots. Jan suggested that you anchor the plant in place with stakes & ties till the roots get established.

Jan then spoke of her least successful growing when the heat of summer dried out the plants quicker than she could water then with the Coelogyne bibs shrivelling and comparable situation with her Lycastes. Of course, the wind also played its part causing plant hangers to break and end up crashing to the floor breaking growing eyes & flower buds. The method used to rehydrate was to drench the pots, changing the water after each pot drenched. Jan noted the plants that were half under cover fared best although they were drenched by rain, they were able to store rainwater in the well to stave off total dehydration unlike those further under cover.

As with all things Jan advised not to change your whole collection but use a sample of your collection to see how these pots work for your conditions. You need to evaluate to see what works for your conditions.

Jan then explained how she had made some DIY versions a drink bottle cut in half filled with clay balls with a pot inserted into self-water and another example was a smaller pot inside a slightly larger pot with water, when the smaller pot losses water it would sink into the water thus watering. The other explanation was the larger pot expanded in the heat allowing the smaller pot to sink into the water Jan spoke of the pests that had afflicted her collection and reiterated the need to flush the well was critical to good growth as Jan explained it is not smart to allow a build up of salts and flushing out residue is critical

Fedor thanked Jan for her Presentation and was approved by acclamation.

### **Luck Badge Draw:**

Was won by Jane D'Olier

### **Raffle:**

The Raffle prize winners were George Yung, Alonya Cullinan, Jan Robertson, Sharon McIlwain, and Sam Campagna

### **Closure:**

The President closed the meeting at 10.00 pm thanking members for attending and wished everyone a safe journey home and asked for help to put the tables & Chairs away & vacuum up spilled potting media.

## **Results of Five Dock Display at Orchids Central October 2024**

CLASS	PLACE	DISPLAY/CHAMPION/CLASS NAME	DISPLAY	PLANT NAME	OWNER NAME
		Display Class 3 - Floor/Island/3 Tabletop 4sqm	4		Five Dock RSL OS
		Champion Australasian Native Orchid Hybrid	4	Sarco. Fitzhart 'Rusty Bucket'	P&J D'Olier
		Best Specimen of the Show	4	C. intermedia alba	J. Tran
7	1st	Sarcophilus	4	Sarco. Fitzhart 'Rusty Bucket'	P&J D'Olier
37	2nd	Cluster Type – minimum 5 flowers	4	Ctt. Rick or Treat	J. Tran
54	1st	Cattleya over 60mm	4	C. neokautskyii	P&J D'Olier
55	2nd	Cattleya up to and including 60mm	4	C. neokautskyii	P&J D'Olier
57	1st	Oncidiinae	4	Onc. croesus	P&J D'Olier
59	1st	Other Pleurothalidinae	4	Pths. ophiocephala	P&J D'Olier
59	2nd	Other Pleurothalidinae	4	Pths. antenniferum	P&J D'Olier
81	1st	Seedling Not Otherwise Specified	4	Zgd. Calico Gem 'Gren Valley'	S. McIlwain
83	1st	Australasian Native Species or Hybrid	4	Sarco. Kulnura Taser 'Splash Orange' x Kulnura Rage 'Jester'	S. McIlwain



**Five Dock RSL Display at Orchids Central, Club Condell Park 2024**



**Open Plant of the Night  
Dendrobium Unknown  
Owner Sam & Louisa Campagne**



**Novice Plant of the Night  
Arpophyllum giganteum  
Owner Kelly Xu**

Point Score September 2024			
Open			
<b>Class 2 Cymbidium Miniature up to 60mm</b>		<b>Class 23 Oncidiinae 36-60mm</b>	
1. <i>Cym.</i> Sunshine Falls 'Butterball'	L. Harris	1. <i>Onc.</i> Pacific Panache	D&P Booth
<b>Class 3 Laeliinae (Cattleya) Exhibition</b>		2. <i>Bcd.</i> Guided Tower 'Mystic Maze'	
1. <i>C.</i> Paradox	D&P Booth	3. <i>Onc.</i> Speckled Spire 'Shorty'	S&L Campagna
<b>Class 4 Laeliinae (Cattleya) 66-110mm</b>		<b>Class 24 Oncidiinae over 61mm</b>	
1. <i>C.</i> Unknown	S&L Campagna	1. <i>Alcra.</i> Tahoma Glacier	J Tran
2. <i>Rlc.</i> Haw Yuan Beauty 'Yi Mei Angel'	J Tran	2. <i>Alcra.</i> Snowblind 'Sweetspots'	P La
<b>Class 5 Laeliinae (Cattleya) Mini up to 65mm</b>		<b>Class 25 Species America</b>	
1. <i>Bc.</i> Lindleyana (Benched in wrong class)	S&L Campagna	1. <i>Arpo.</i> <i>giganteum</i>	F. Pristov
2. <i>Bc.</i> Lindleyana (Benched in wrong class)	D&P Booth	<b>Class 28 Misc. Hybrids not listed</b>	
<b>Class 6 Laeliinae (Cattleya) Cluster 5+Flowers</b>		1. <i>Zga.</i> Happy Bay	
1. <i>Epi.</i> Topaz Sunny 'Bright'	J Tran	2. <i>Zga.</i> Happy Bay x Npp. Beverley Lou	S&L Campagna
2. <i>Ctt.</i> Gold Digger	P La	<b>Class 33 Aust. Sarcanthinae Hybrids</b>	
3. Unknown	J Tran	1. <i>Sarco.</i> Kulnara Spirit x Kulnara Coral Red	S&L Campagna
<b>Class 7a Laeliinae (Cattleya) Species</b>		2. <i>Sarco.</i> Unknown	
1. <i>C. tereticaulis</i>	P&J D'Olier	<b>Class 33 Aust. Sarcanthinae Species</b>	
2. <i>C. trianae</i> f. <i>coerulea</i>	P&J D'Olier	1. <i>Sarco.</i> hartmannii 'Jez'	S&L Campagna
<b>Class 11 Dendrobium Hybrids (Not Australian)</b>		<b>Novice</b>	
1. <i>Den.</i> Unknown	S&L Campagna	<b>Class 38 Novice Dendrobium</b>	
2. <i>Den.</i> Unknown	J Tran	1. <i>Den.</i> Unknown	Kelly Xu
3. <i>Den.</i> Second Love	G. Hodder	2. <i>Den.</i> Pink Lady	Kelly Xu
<b>Class 12 Den. Species (Not Australian)</b>		3. <i>Den.</i> Unknown	
1. <i>Den. thysiflorum</i>	L. Harris	<b>Class 39 Novice Laeliinae</b>	
2. <i>Den. fimbriatum</i>	L. Harris	1. <i>C.</i> Unknown	G. Yung
<b>Class 13 Monopodial/Vandaceous Species</b>		2. <i>Bc.</i> Lindleyana	
1. <i>V. tricolor</i> var. <i>suavis</i>	S&L Campagna	3. <i>Bc.</i> Lindleyana	
<b>Class 14 Monopodial/Vandaceous Hybrids</b>		<b>Class 41 Novice Phalaenopsis</b>	
1. <i>Pda.</i> Jokenny	L. Harris	1. <i>Phal.</i> King Car Lollipop	K Reyes
<b>Class 15 Coelogyninae Species</b>		2. <i>Phal.</i> Unknown	
1. <i>Coel. flaccida</i>	S&L Campagna	<b>Class 43 Novice Misc. Species Not Listed</b>	
2. <i>Ddc. glumaceum</i>	R. Moon	1. <i>Arpo.</i> <i>giganteum</i>	Kelly Xu
3. <i>Coel. flaccida</i>	F. Pristov	<b>Class 44 Novice Misc. Hybrids Not Listed</b>	
<b>Class 16 Coelogyninae Hybrids</b>		1. <i>Zdg.</i> Calico 'Green Valley'	
1. <i>Coel.</i> Mem. W. Micholitz	P La	<b>Class 47 Novice Oncidiinae Species &amp; Hybrids</b>	
<b>Class 17 Phalaenopsis Exhibition over 76mm</b>		1. <i>Onc.</i> Hawaiian Sunset	
1. <i>Phal.</i> Unknown	J. Major	2. Unknown	
<b>Class 21 Oncidiinae Species</b>		<b>Class 48 Seedling</b>	
1. <i>Gom. croesus</i>	P&J D'Olier	1. Unknown	
<b>Class 22 Oncidiinae under 35mm</b>			
1. <i>Onc.</i> Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'	S&L Campagna	<b>NUMBER OF PLANTS BENCHED 57</b>	

# Arpophyllum Genus

Seeing Kelly's plant win novice plant of the night I thought we should dive into this genus

**Arpophyllum** is a member of the Sub tribe Laelinae and contains 3 species, that are endemic to Mexico, Belize, Central America, Colombia, Venezuela and Jamaica

There are three species with, and the name is derived from the Greek word Harpe, meaning sickle or scimitar, and phyllon, meaning leaf, referring to the falcate leaves of *Arpophyllum spicatum* which is the type form species of the genera

**Arpophyllum giganteum** has 3 sub species and was described by Karl Theodor Hartweg (1812–1871) originally by John Lindley (1799–1865). Is native to Veracruz, Chiapas, Oaxaca, Central America, Colombia, Venezuela, Jamaica

**Arpophyllum giganteum subsp. alpinum** by John Lindley (1799–1865) as amended by Robert Louis Dressler (1927–2019) habitat from the Chiapas, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras regions

**Arpophyllum giganteum subsp. giganteum** is found from Veracruz, Chiapas, Oaxaca, Central America, Colombia, Venezuela, to Jamaica

**Arpophyllum giganteum subsp. medium** originally described by Heinrich Gustav Reichenbach (1824–1889.) amended by Robert Louis Dressler (1927–2019) found from Veracruz, Chiapas, Oaxaca, through Central America

**Arpophyllum laxiflorum** described by Ernst Hugo Heinrich Pfitzer (1846–1906) endemic to eastern, central and southern Mexico

**Arpophyllum spicatum** by Pablo de La Llave (1773-1833) & Juan José Martínez de Lexarza (1772-1824) Native to eastern, central and southern Mexico; south to Costa Rica.

This genus are clump-forming epiphytes with stout, trailing rhizomes, with the pseudobulbs cylindrically shaped, and strongly compressed. single leaves that are strap-shaped and leathery. Flowers tend to be erect, pedunculate, and densely packed, with a large spathe-like bracts  
This genus tends to grow best in either large pots or baskets with a medium-grade bark potting mix and should rarely be repotted. As they tend to "sulk" after repotting. To that end the roots do not like to be disturbed any more than absolutely necessary. Bright but diffuse light is suggested and regular watering during the growing season. The plants will grow well under intermediate to warm temperatures but will not flower unless given a very cool and dry dormant period. The plants usually flower best when they are pot-bound.

## Dates for the Diary

10 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Manly Warringah Orchid Society Orchid Auction Cromer
28 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Monthly Meeting / Growing Competition Judging
07 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Presentation Night / Christmas Party, Club Five Dock RSL
23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2025	Monthly Meeting
27 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Monthly Meeting / Growing Competition Judging
27 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	Monthly Meeting & AGM
19 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	Anzac Tribute at Club Five Dock RSL Foyer TBC
24 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	Monthly Meeting
07 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	Autumn Show Marketplace Leichhardt TBC
23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2025	Orchids Out West
22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2025	Monthly Meeting / Growing Competition Judging
26 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	Monthly Meeting
24 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Monthly Meeting
28 <sup>th</sup> August 2025	Monthly Meeting / Growing Competition Judging
11 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Spring Show Marketplace Leichhardt TBC
25 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	Monthly Meeting
02 <sup>nd</sup> October 2025	AOC Conference & Show Woolgoolga
16 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Orchids Central Club Condell Park Thursday Set up
23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025	Monthly Meeting
27 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Monthly Meeting / Growing Competition Judging
06 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Presentation Night / Christmas Party, Club Five Dock RSL