



# The Australasian Native Orchid Society The Warringah Group Inc.

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Bill Dobson & Trish Peterson

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Judith Barry (Librarian), Jane D'Olier, Peter D'Olier, Cary Polis, Bryanna Whitaker.

**Web Administrator:**

Jane D'Olier **Website:** <https://www.anoswarringah.org.au/>



**Facebook:** [ANOS - The Warringah Group Inc.](https://www.facebook.com/anoswarringah)

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

PO Box 421, Forestville NSW 2087

**Monthly Meetings:**

3rd Tuesday each month at 8:00 pm - Senior Citizens Hall, Starkey Street, Forestville. NSW 2087

## April 2025



*Dendrobium schneiderae* David Hemmings



*Dockrillia rigida* David Hemmings



*Dendrobium bigibbum* G & S Russell

**Next Meeting:**

**Tuesday 15th April**

Steve Dunstan  
Culture of New Guinea Dendrobiums



**Minutes of monthly meeting** held at the Senior Citizens Hall, Starkey Street, Forestville on Tuesday 18th March 2025 The meeting was opened by Bill Dobson at 8:00 pm

**Committee Members Present:** President Bill Dobson, Treasurer Ela Kielich, Librarian Judith Barry, Cary Polis, Jane & Peter D'Olier, Bryanna Whitaker.

**Apologies:** Ian Tanner, Chris Murray, Trish Peterson, Tony Agrella, Steve Levi, Cary Polis.

**Minutes of the previous** meeting as presented in the Bulletin were moved as correct by Richard Blaxland, seconded by Bill Dobson, and passed by all.

**Business arising from last meeting:** Nil

Bill said that a member of long-standing Graham Slater, passed away on Saturday morning 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025 after a short illness. Graham had been a long-time member of ANOS Illawarra, a previous Treasurer of ANOS Illawarra, a member of ANOS Warringah, and a former President and Life Member of ANOS Inc. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. A minute's silence was held in tribute.

**Correspondence:** Bill said that there was no correspondence as there currently was no secretary and urged members to consider this role.

**Mick's Ramble:** Patron Mick brought a *Dendrobium* Jonathan's Glory that was in flower but said that the cold change had meant that the flower that opened had not rotated around and set upside down. He also had brought a couple of *Den. speciosum* var. *pedunculatum* in to aid his talk and gave examples of how *Den. speciosum* var. *boreale* could be mistaken for var. *pedunculatum*.

**Plant of the evening:** *Plectorrhiza brevilabris* a magnificently flowered plant by Erik Lielkajis. A little paler than the usual Erik said but a great flowering, nevertheless.

After the break Mick continued his talk on *Den. speciosum* var. *pedunculatum* and some of the country that it grows in and why it got its name. Very informative.

**Meeting closed at 7.50 pm**



*Plectorrhiza brevilabris* Erik Lielkajis



*Plectorrhiza brevilabris* Erik Lielkajis



*Dendrobium bigibbum* G & S Russell



*Dockrillia sulphrea* Erik Lielkajis



*Luisia teretifolia* Erik Lielkajis



## Vale, Graham Slater

Graham Slater, passed away on Saturday morning 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025 after a short illness. Graham had been a long-time member of ANOS Illawarra, a previous Treasurer of ANOS Illawarra, a member of ANOS Warringah, and a former President and Life Member of ANOS Inc. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

My memories of Graham from ANOS Council meetings and dinner at the West Ryde RSL before, along with many times at Tinonee Open days and BBQs the night before and bush walks, and trips to the Kempsey Speciosum Spectacular. Always jovial and easy to get on with. Vale Graham.

-oOo-



## In my Bushhouse

Well, the days have finally started to get a bit cooler as we approach April and get into autumn proper. I have cleared all the weeds under the benches, and rearranged pots in preparation for winter. Those that will need a little more sun in winter can be brought out in April or May and those that require some protection from cold and wet can be moved at the end of April.

For *Dendrobium speciosum* I will start to look for the beginnings of 'spikes' around Anzac Day although the variety *capricornicum* may come early as in the wild they seem to boom from May onwards.

*Sarcochilus hartmannii*, *Sarcochilus fitzgeraldii* and their hybrids will appreciate the changes in temperatures, and you can see the leaves start to gloss up and new root tips turn green and emerge. Over the summer months their roots have been moving down through the mix in search of moisture. So, you would only have to keep cool and not over water to keep them active.

*Oberonia* have now started to send out their inflorescences from their new fans. These will develop over the next 2 months as they slowly open from the end and work backwards towards the base of the inflorescence, quite the reverse of *Sarcochilus*. Wait until these have finished flowering before you can divide them, if you wish although it is better to grow into a large plant. However, these are quite forgiving and even a single fan will eventually grow into a large plant given time.

For the *Dendrobium* species and hybrids when new growths are finished and harden you can stake if they are not growing as you would like. If you do it now and not wait until the 'spikes' and flowers come the plant will look a lot more presentable on the show bench. You can even do this with *Den. speciosum* pseudobulbs as if they are staked for some months they will generally remain in this position.

Flowering in the Bushhouse at the moment are *Cadetia taylori*, *Dockrillia cucumerina*, *Dendrobium prenticei*, *Dendrobium lichenastrum*, *Dockrillia racemosa*.

Bill Dobson



*Oberonia palmicola* Erik Lielkajis



## ANOS Warringah Monthly Benching Results - March 2025

### 1. Dockrillia species

- 1<sup>st</sup> *Dockrillia sulphurea*  
2<sup>nd</sup> *Dockrillia rigida*  
3<sup>rd</sup> *Dockrillia racemosa*

### 2. Dendrobium species

- 1<sup>st</sup> *Dendrobium schneiderae*  
2<sup>nd</sup> *Dendrobium bigibbum*  
3<sup>rd</sup> *Dendrobium bigibbum*

### 3. Sarcanthinae species

- 1<sup>st</sup> *Plectorrhiza brevilabris*  
2<sup>nd</sup> *Luisia teretifolia*  
3<sup>rd</sup> *Taeniophyllum malianum*

### 4. Bulbophyllum species

- 1<sup>st</sup> *Bulbophyllum macphersonii*  
2<sup>nd</sup> *Bulbophyllum exiguum*  
3<sup>rd</sup> *Bulbophyllum macphersonii*

### 5. Miscellaneous species

- 1<sup>st</sup> *Oberonia palmicola*  
2<sup>nd</sup> *Cadetia taylori*  
3<sup>rd</sup> *Pholidota imbricata*

### 6. Dendrobium Hybrids

- 1<sup>st</sup> *Den. bigibbum* hybrid  
2<sup>nd</sup> *Den. Topaz Dream*  
3<sup>rd</sup> *Den. Jayden*

### 7. Sarcanthinae Hybrids

- 1<sup>st</sup> Nil  
2<sup>nd</sup> Nil  
3<sup>rd</sup> Nil

### 8. Miscellaneous Hybrids

- 1<sup>st</sup> *Den. Bucko*  
2<sup>nd</sup> Nil  
3<sup>rd</sup> Nil

### 9. Australasian species

- 1<sup>st</sup> *Paphiopedilum glanduliferum*  
2<sup>nd</sup> *Dendrochilum longifolium*  
3<sup>rd</sup> Nil

### 10. Australasian Hybrids

- 1<sup>st</sup> *Den. Hibiki*  
2<sup>nd</sup> *Den. Post Printing x Gerald McCraith*  
3<sup>rd</sup> *Bulbo. NOID*

Erik Lielkajis  
David Hemmings  
L & B Dobson

David Hemmings  
G & S Russell  
G & S Russell

Erik Lielkajis  
Erik Lielkajis  
Erik Lielkajis

L & B Dobson  
David Hemmings  
L & B Dobson

Erik Lielkajis  
L & B Dobson  
Li Shan

Ela Kielich  
G & S Russell  
Li Shan

I & I Chalmers

Li Shan  
R. G. Blaxland

Li Shan  
R. G. Blaxland  
I & I Chalmers

### 11. Novice & Junior

- 1<sup>st</sup> Nil  
2<sup>nd</sup> Nil  
3<sup>rd</sup> Nil

### 12. Pterostylis species

- 1<sup>st</sup> *Pterostylis laxa*  
2<sup>nd</sup> Nil  
3<sup>rd</sup> Nil

### 13. Other terrestrials

- 1<sup>st</sup> Nil  
2<sup>nd</sup> Nil  
3<sup>rd</sup> Nil

### 14. Terrestrial hybrids

- 1<sup>st</sup> Nil  
2<sup>nd</sup> Nil  
3<sup>rd</sup> Nil

### 15. Best specimen

- 1<sup>st</sup> *Dendrobium monophyllum* 'Huffs Tree' David Hemmings  
2<sup>nd</sup> Nil  
3<sup>rd</sup> Nil

### 16. Best First Flowering seedling

- 1<sup>st</sup> Nil  
2<sup>nd</sup> Nil  
3<sup>rd</sup> Nil

R. G. Blaxland



*Cadetia taylori* L & B Dobson

-o0o-



*Bulbophyllum macphersonii* L & B Dobson



*Den. Bigibbum* hybrid Ela Kielich



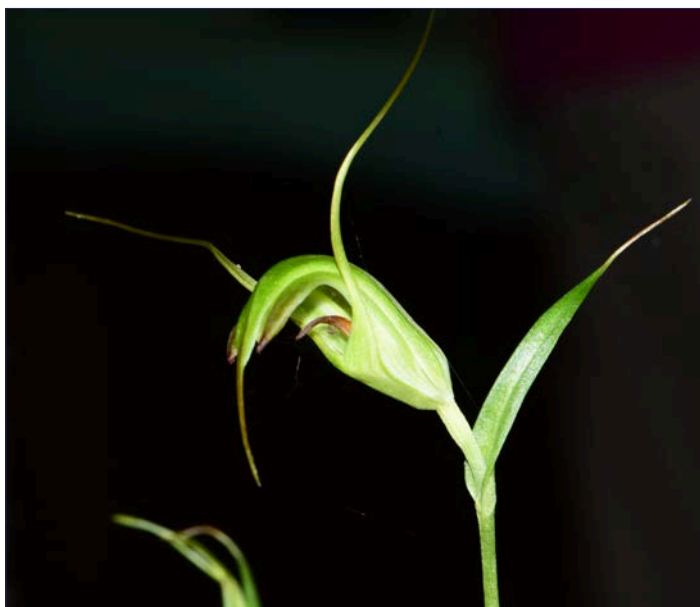
*Taeniophyllum malianum* Erik Lielkajis



*Den. Topaz Dream* G & S Russell



*Den. Bucko* I & I Chalmers



*Pterostylis laxa* R. G. Blaxland



*Den. Jayden* Li Shan



*Paphiopedilum glanduliferum* Li Shan





*Dendrochilum longifolium* R.G. Blaxland



*Den. Hibiki* Li Shan



*Dendrobium monophyllum* 'Huff's Tree' David Hemmings



*Bulbophyllum* sp. NOID I & I Chalmers



*Dendrobium bigibbum* G & S Russell





*Den. Post Printing* x Gerald McGrath R.G. Blaxland



## *Dockrillia racemosa*

***Dockrillia racemosa***, commonly known as the **erect pencil orchid**, is a species endemic to tropical North Queensland. It is an epiphytic or lithophytic orchid with yellowish stems, cylindrical dark green leaves and flowering stems with between eight and fifteen cream-coloured to pale yellow flowers with a thread-like tip on the labellum.

### Description

The flowers are 18–22 mm long, 20–25 mm wide with the sepals and petals curving outwards as they age. The sepals are 20–25 mm long, about 2 mm wide and the petals are a similar length but only half as wide. The labellum is about 20 mm long and 6 mm wide with small side lobes and a long tapered middle lobe with wavy edges. Flowering usually occurs from September to October, although over March and April I flowered 2 separate plants!

### Taxonomy and naming

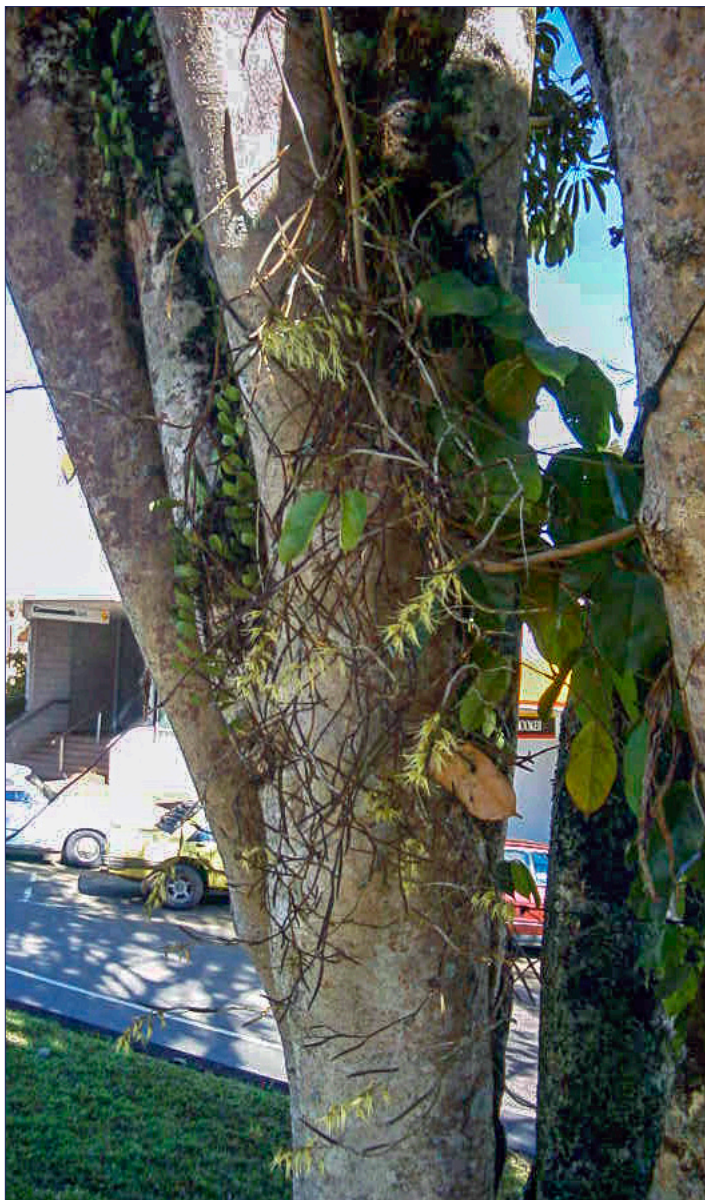
The orchid was first formally described in 1936 by William Henry Nicholls who gave it the name *Dendrobium beckleri* var. *racemosum* and published the description in *The North Queensland Naturalist*. In 1964 Stephen Clemesha and Alick Dockrill raised the variety to species status. The specific epithet *racemosa* is a Latin word meaning “full of clusters”.

### Distribution and habitat

*Dockrillia racemosa* grows on trees and rocks in exposed situations on the Atherton and Evelyn Tablelands at altitudes of between 800 and 1,500 m (3,000 and 5,000 ft).

My first meeting with this species was on my first visit to Atherton FNQ in 2001 where it was growing on a tree in the centre island in the main street of Atherton. Then next I saw it was growing low on the trunk of a Hoop Pine below the dam wall at Tinaroo Dam. I have to admit that both times I saw it I was unimpressed as the flowers look all over the place and scraggly. Then some years later I was lucky to find a few plants on a branch further round Tinaroo Dam and when the flowered I was very impressed. When you look at the intricacies of the labellum in the photograph you can see the amazing glittery gold beauty that nature has brought us in this flowering gem.

BillD



*Dockrillia racemosa* Atherton FNQ 2001

This photo taken with a Ricoh RDC5000 2.1 Mp camera

Sadly this and a number of plants disappeared in Cyclone 2010. However, plenty others survived and flourished in the beautiful Far North of Australia.



*Sarcophilus hirticalcar* Trish Peterson



*Bulbophyllum exiguum* Trish Peterson



Not often that I'd advise our members to join another group however, this is a chance to get a special book at an extraordinary good price.

ANOS Victoria through their President George Byrne-Dimos and his friendship with the author David Banks have arranged a special price \$155-\$185 (RRP \$299) + P&H.

I've known David since he first gave a lecture at Manly Warringah Orchid Society in or about 1988 and have bought and exchanged orchids with him ever since.

He and Mike Harrison are the only vendors still at the St Ives Orchid Fair since its inception in 2000.

This promises to be an exceptional book and if you are interested in orchids then this should be in your library.

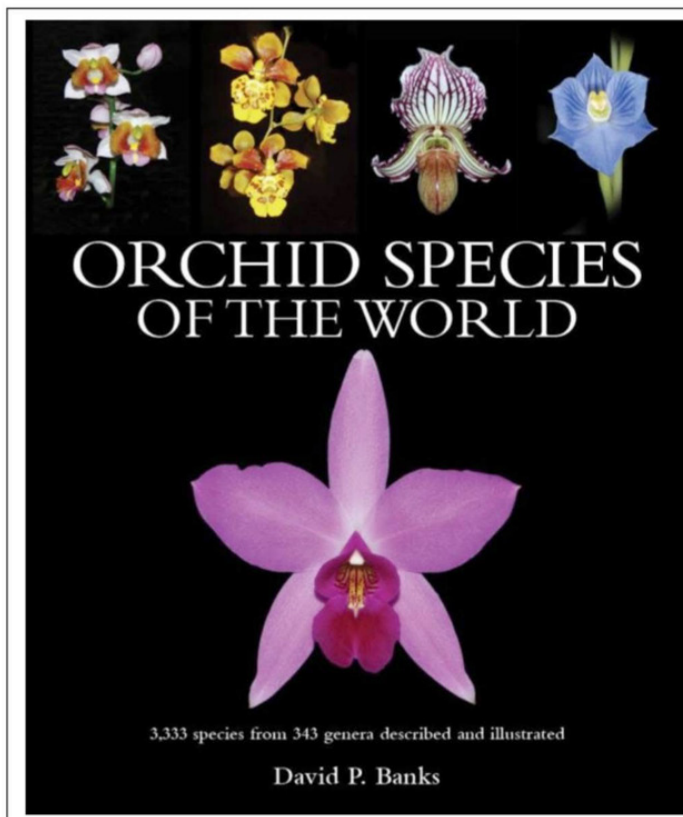
Bill Dobson

*Orchid Species of the World* is an epic illustrated encyclopaedia of global wild native orchids from the Old and New Worlds, including temperate and tropical areas and both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres. This is the most complete, comprehensive and up-to-date illustrated guide ever published on these cosmopolitan, specialised and iconic flowering plants, and it is presented in a single colourful, authoritative and information-packed volume.

Never before has such a variety and quantity of terrestrial, lithophytic and epiphytic orchids been presented together. Introductory chapters cover the basics about orchids and their biology, naming and cultivation. This is followed by a summary of the characters defining the 343 different genera featured, with succinct and precise text about the 3,333 individually described and illustrated species entries. Details also include countries of origin, defining identification characters, cultivation tips and seasonal flowering times.

The most current botanical combinations have been included and applied on a case-by-case basis, keeping similar natural groups together, after the author has personally studied these orchids and reviewed the latest published taxonomic proposals and DNA-based scientific research, with more than 2,450 synonyms and alternate names included.

**David P. Banks** is a world-renowned expert botanist, researcher, lecturer, photographer and author specialising in Australian and exotic orchid species. A recipient of the prestigious International Orchid Digest Medal, he owns and manages the Hills District Orchids nursery in Sydney, Australia, and is the former Editor of the iconic *Australian Orchid Review*.



**ANOS Vic** is offering our financial Members the opportunity to purchase this new book.

It is due for release in July/August 2025, at a recommended retail price of \$299.00.

The ANOS Vic Committee has secured a one-off deal for the current ANOS Vic Membership at the very special offer of **40-50%\*** discount (off RRP - \$299) plus postage and handling (TBA), or pick up from the President's house in Vermont Sth  
**\*Availability at 50%** is dependent on the number of orders received and will be open until July 31, 2025, for pre-orders and a payment of \$25 deposit per book ordered (no limit on number ordered). Balance is due prior to delivery or on pick up of the book(s).

**To secure your copy at this greatly reduced price you must:**

1. **E-mail** order details to **both:**

The President - [president@anosvic.org.au](mailto:president@anosvic.org.au) and

The Treasurer - [treasurer@anosvic.org.au](mailto:treasurer@anosvic.org.au)

2. **Deposit payment** of \$25 via Direct Debit to:

**Bank:** Westpac **BSB:** 033060 **A/C No:** 115222

**Account Name:** ANOS Vic Group





*Dockrillia racemosa* L & B Dobson





*Liparis reflexa* Trish Peterson



*Oberonia complanata* Trish Peterson