

**MACARTHUR ANOS REPORT**  
**For ANOS Inc Meeting**  
**September 2024**

**Overview**

Macarthur and Districts ANOS was established in 1990 and is a relatively small society of active growers of all varieties of Australasian orchids. The group is active in encouraging native orchid growing as well as supporting local native orchid conservation.

**Membership and Committee**

Macarthur ANOS currently has 52 members with 5 new members joining the group during the last 12-month period.

At the 2024 Macarthur ANOS AGM held in July, our long-term President - Wally Southwell and his Committee Member wife – Margaret Southwell stood down after over 20 years in these positions. This decision was based on Wally not being able to drive at night and as such would be unable to attend winter meetings. Both Wally and Margaret are Life Members of our society and will remain active members moving forward. Macarthur ANOS is indebted to their leadership.



**Wally and Margaret at our 2024 Autumn Show**

**2024 Macarthur ANOS Committee**

Position	Member
<b>President</b>	Kyle Hall
<b>Vice President</b>	Robert Moon
<b>Secretary</b>	Ross Morrison
<b>Assistant Secretary</b>	Justin Lee
<b>Treasurer</b>	Carol Asquith
<b>Editor</b>	Tony Asquith
<b>Conservation Officer</b>	Jim Cootes
<b>Show Marshal</b>	Graeme Morrison
<b>Public Officer</b>	Ross Morrison
<b>Sales Table Coordinator</b>	Graeme Morrison
<b>Committee</b>	Carolyn Wright
	Zoe-Joy Scanlin
	Wendy Estall

**Monthly Meeting**

In 2024, our monthly meetings were face-to-face gatherings. These meetings have been well attended by over 30 members and visitors each month. ZOOM options have been maintained for members as well as providing an option

for presentations. Monthly benching of plants averaged 55 over the last 12 months and 60% of members benched plants over the year. Meetings always had either an arranged presentation / presenter for the evening or a benching report was delivered by one of our members.

This year we introduced a “Orchid Growers Support segment” as part of our monthly meeting agendas and members are active to seek out advice, learn growing techniques and ask questions.

After introducing in 2023, we have continued with the ‘Plant Growing’ segment at each meeting – where 4 selected plants are spoken about by growers on their successful growing skills. This is well received by all and creates a better community for all members.

The benching of plants at the monthly meetings occurs across 21 sections. A ‘Plant of the Night’ is selected by the judges and ‘Popular Choice’ is selected by members / visitors in attendance. Annually, prize money and trophy are awarded to the ‘Point score Champion’ plus second and third placegetters. The Terry Cooke Memorial Champion Terrestrial Grower Award is presented to growers accumulating points from monthly and show benching’s.

### 2024 Sponsorship

After beginning a sponsorship drive in 2023, Macarthur ANOS has continued to attach sponsors this year. This sponsorship has enhanced the Societies activities and encourages membership. In 2024, the following Sponsors have been added to the supporters of Macarthur ANOS:

- Kings Orchid Nursery
- Macquarie Orchids
- Barrita Orchid Nursery
- Down Under Native Orchids
- Macarthur Orchids and Plants
- TLE Electrical Wholesaler – Smeaton Grange
- ACE Produce – Macarthur
- Bob Bishop – Kiwi Bark
- Donut King – Oran Park

### Annual Shows

Macarthur ANOS conducted three very successful shows over the last 12 months. All Shows were held at Oran Park Podium (Shopping Centre) on Saturdays with setup from 6.30am, benching from 7.15 – 8.45am and judging from 9.00am. Sales tabled operated throughout the day and pack up started from 3.45pm.

<b>Show Statistics</b>	<b>Sections</b>	<b>Champions</b>	<b>Exhibitors</b>	<b>Plants</b>
<b>SHOW</b> Spring Show 9 September 23	30	9	10	135
Late Spring Show 21 October 23	33	7	15	191
Autumn Show 11 May 24	19	7	11	61

### 2024 Show Dates

<b>2024 Show Dates</b>	
<b>Autumn Show</b>	<b>11 May</b>
<b>Spring Show</b>	<b>14 September</b>
<b>Late Spring and Sarcophilus Show</b>	<b>19 October</b>

		
<b>2023 Spring Show Grand Champion</b>	<b>2023 Late Spring Show Grand Champion</b>	<b>2024 Autumn Show Grand Champion</b>
<i>Dockrillia convoluta</i> Grown by Kyle Hall	<i>Dendrobium fleckeri</i> Grown by Mike Harrison	<i>Pterostylis ophioglossa</i> Grown by Ross Morrison

This 12-month period saw good participation by members at each of our Shows.

#### Funding

Apart from the \$15 annual membership subscription, Macarthur ANOS conducts monthly and show raffles / sales table activities.

Macarthur ANOS also received a Council grant in 2024.

- Camden Council – Community Sponsorship Program - \$1560 – for Champion and Sectional Prize Money for the 2024 Spring and Late Spring Shows.

#### Conservation Projects

Macarthur ANOS and its members currently has a variety of conservation items happening

- Macarthur Native Orchid Survey** – this project initially funded by AGL and later Camden Council has allowed the society to engage with local Councils and other community members to survey orchid species and populations throughout Macarthur. The current survey has identified 109 orchids species – 30 of which are new observations since the 1995 survey. Ten species listed on the 1995 survey are yet to be seen. The current survey has seen over 2,400 observations logged in iNaturalist by over 100 community members.
- Pterostylis saxicola population mapping** – Macarthur ANOS is actively supporting Campbelltown Council in mapping *Pterostylis saxicola* populations. The *Pterostylis saxicola* project has been added to the Dept of Environment ‘Save our Species’ Project and Macarthur ANOS members have assisted with DNA sampling.
- Pterostylis gibbosa reintroductions** - Macarthur ANOS is investigating the opportunity to establish a reintroduction program of *Pterostylis gibbosa* into some Illawarra locations. The *Pterostylis gibbosa* project has been added to the Dept of Environment ‘Save our Species’ Project and Macarthur ANOS members have begun meeting with the coordinators.
- Rhizanthella sp Project** – Macarthur ANOS members found this species in Dharawal National Park in late April 2024. This species has its own Dept of Environment ‘Save our Species’ Project and Macarthur ANOS members have collected DNA with the state coordinators and are awaiting flowering in September. A further 7 plants have been found in close proximity.
- Royal Botanic Gardens - Mt Annan** – Macarthur ANOS is corresponding with Mt Annan to see if we can support the Gardens Native Orchid projects.

#### Communication Activities

Macarthur ANOS has an active Facebook Group Page (at least 3 post per week) at [Macarthur ANOS Group](#) . This page currently has over 580 members and allows us to:

- Communicate to members and potential members,
- Promote our activities,
- Disseminate other interesting articles about native orchids.

- d. Allows the community to ask questions, highlight their finds,
- e. Highlight Macarthur ANOS successes.
- f.

Macarthur ANOS – is currently redesigning its website at [www.macarthuranos.com](http://www.macarthuranos.com) and will hopefully be relaunched in late September 2024.

Apart from the Facebook page, Macarthur ANOS also forwards other societies newsletters – Newcastle and Central Coast ANOS to our members. This creates interest and initiatives.

**Ross Morrison, Secretary**  
**Macarthur ANOS Group**