

**MACARTHUR ANOS REPORT**  
**For ANOS Inc Meeting**  
**September 2025**

**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 54 financial members with 3 new members joining the group during the last 12-month period.

In very sad news, we lost esteemed life member Margaret Southwell after a period of illness in October 2024. Margaret became a member of Macarthur ANOS Group with her husband, Wally, in 2002 and when Wally took on the President's role in 2005, Margaret also took on various committee positions. Margaret was the mainstay of the organisation in the background managing the suppliers, library and stores whilst being the face of the organisation at the sales table at our annual shows. Macarthur ANOS will greatly miss her enthusiasm and company.

At the 2025 Macarthur ANOS AGM held in July, the following members were elected as office bearers.

**2025 Macarthur ANOS Committee**



**Macarthur ANOS**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Member</b>
<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 Marshals</b>	Graeme Morrison Justin Lee Robert Moon
<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 2025, 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 50 over the last 12 months with only 40% of members benching plants over the year. Meetings always had an arranged presentation / presenter for the evening.

As of December 2025, monthly meetings will change from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month to the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month. This decision has been made to avoid other ANOS Monthly meetings.

This year we continued with two additional items in the agenda – **Benching Report** (3 or 4 selected plants) and the **Orchid Growers Support** segment allowing members to seek out advice, learn growing techniques and ask questions.

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 Point Score Champion – Mike Harrison**  
**2024 Terry Cooke Terrestrial Grower Champion – Ross Morrison**

**2025 Sponsorship**

After beginning a sponsorship drive in 2023, Macarthur ANOS has continued to attract sponsors during 2025. This sponsorship has enhanced the Society's activities and encourages membership. In 2025, the following Sponsors have been added to the supporters of Macarthur ANOS:

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

**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.

<i>Show Statistics</i> <b>SHOW</b>	<b>Sections</b>	<b>Champions</b>	<b>Exhibitors</b>	<b>Plants</b>
Spring Show 14 September 24	30	9	11	153
Late Spring Show 19 October 24	33	7	9	187
Autumn Show 10 May 25	19	7	7	61

		
<b>2024 Spring Show Grand Champion</b>	<b>2024 Late Spring Show Grand Champion</b>	<b>2025 Autumn Show Grand Champion</b>
<b>Dockrillia Tweetas 'Curly Gold'</b> Grown by Mike Harrison	<b>Sarcophilus Judith 'Snow'</b> Grown by Noel Bates	<b>Oberonia crateriformis</b> Grown by Kyle Hall

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

2024 and 2025 Show Dates		
Autumn Show	11 May 24	10 May 25
Spring and Speciosum Show	14 September 24	13 September 25
Late Spring and Sarcophilus Show	19 October 24	18 October 25

### 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 involved in a variety of conservation projects:

- 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 117 orchid species – 42 of which are new observations since the initial 1995 survey. Eight species listed on the 1995 survey are yet to be seen. The current survey has seen over 3,200 observations logged in iNaturalist by over 120 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. Initial DNA testing highlights a possible new species

### Communication Activities

Macarthur ANOS has an active Facebook Group Page at [Macarthur ANOS Group](#) . This page currently has over 750 members and allows us to:

- Communicate to members and potential members,
- Promote our activities,
- Disseminate other interesting articles about native orchids.
- Allows the community to ask questions, highlight their finds,
- Highlight Macarthur ANOS successes.

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