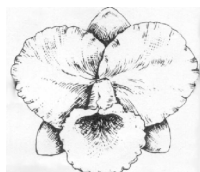


THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ORCHID BULLETIN

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE ORCHID SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
A MEMBER OF THE AUSTRALIAN ORCHID COUNCIL. FOUNDED 1946.

VOLUME 49 No 2



ISSUE DATE: FEBRUARY
2009

NEXT MEETING of the Orchid Society of Western Australia (Inc.) will be held in the Collins St. Hall, cnr Collins St & Shaftesbury St. South Perth, Friday 27th February 2009 commencing at **8.00p.m.**

Orchid Society of Western Australia
Patron **Mr K.C. Rex**

THIS MONTH'S MEETING ITEM:

AGM, WINE & CHEESE NIGHT

PRESIDENT

Mr Ian Duncan
Tel 9364 5439

SECRETARY

Mr M. Baker
58 Gladstone Rd.
Leeming 6149
Tel. 9310 2800

TREASURER

Mrs N. Jones
79 Mason Court Southlake 6164
Tel. 9417 2862

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BULLETIN EDITOR

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MARCH MEETING DATES

Judging Panel 7.30 pm Monday 2nd
OSWA Committee 7.30 pm Friday 6th
General Meeting 8.00 pm Friday 27th

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**Deadline for Bulletin Items — 9 pm
Sat. 13 days prior to OSWA GM.**

O.S.W.A disclaims all liability for losses which may be attributed to the use of any material mentioned in the Bulletin. Opinions express by various authors in the Bulletin are not necessarily those of the O.S.W.A

BIRTHDAYS: February– 7th - Jim Baylis, 10th - Henry Eaton, 11th - Nancie Jones, Len Munnings, 20th - Los McFarlane, 25th - Betty Rensen

We wish everyone a very Happy Birthday and also anyone celebrating an Anniversary, our best wishes to you. To anyone on the sick list, we wish you a speedy recovery.

PLEASE NOTE!!! - The Meetings will be held at the **COLLINS St. HALL** not at the Scout & Guide Hall as advised in the December Bulletin. This will be for all of 2009.

OSWA Website: The new website is now online at <http://www.orchidsocietywa.net.au/> This is still a work in progress with some teething problems, but it's a start and I'm sure Rod would welcome constructive feedback.

Home Open: Jim & Kaye Baylis will host a Home Open at 18 Weyland St, Willagee, 9337 6210, on 22nd March 2009 from 11 am. Cost is \$5 per person, proceeds to OSWA. Bring salads, sweets & drinks. Sausages, tea & coffee will be supplied.

OSWA Auction: If you missed the last OSWA General Meeting, you missed a great night! Many thanks to those who made the auction a success by bringing along plants to sell or bidding for plants on the night. Special thanks go to our auctioneer Ian Duncan, his able assistants Ross Lang and Phil Taylor, and record-keepers Nancie Jones and Kaye Baylis, who kept things running smoothly. Also special thanks to Jim Baylis, Tony Garbin and John Carless for their generous donations to the auction. The event raised \$112.90 for OSWA.

Don't throw out those back-bulbs! Your OSWA Committee is looking for ways to encourage new members to join the Society. One idea is to provide new members with a small (or large) orchid plant. If any members have spare divisions or back-bulbs growing on that they would be willing to donate to be used as welcome gifts to new members, please let a Committee Member know.

An inexpensive humidity measuring device: If you are looking for a device to measure humidity around your orchids, "Things" stores are currently selling a gadget called "IN/OUT LCD THERMO CLOCK". It includes a clock, temperature sensors and a humidity sensor and only costs \$10. It runs on two AAA batteries and looks like it is suitable for shade houses and hot houses provided it doesn't get water on it.

Advertising space: Advertising space is for available at reasonable rates in your Bulletin. See the Editor for details.

2009 Show Programme:

- **Autumn Show** 6th - 9th May. Set up Tuesday 5th May, Centro Bull Creek Shopping Centre
- **Winter Show** 25th - 26th July. Set up AM Saturday 25th July Sth Perth Scout & Guide Hll
- **Spring Show** 2nd - 5th September. Set up Tuesday 1st September, Kardinya Park Shopping Cnt.
- **Perth Royal Show** 26th September - 3rd October. Set up Friday 25th September
- **OSWA Potting Workshop** Sunday 11th October South Perth Scout & Guide Hall

Ideas for General Meeting Topics - If you have any suggestions, please let a Committee Member know.

RESULTS OF PLANT COMPETITION - (MONTH - JANUARY 2009)**Open:**

Class 1A (3)	1. Nancie & Bob Jones	<i>Epi. radiata</i>
	2. Ian Duncan	<i>Enc. alata</i>
	3. Jim & Kaye Baylis	<i>Enc. alata</i>
Class 1F (3)	1. Phil Taylor & Eileen Bahemia	Epicat. Envy 'Greenwit'
	2. Jim & Kaye Baylis	Epi. Green Hornet
	3. Jim & Kaye Baylis	<i>Epi. Veroscriptum x Epi. Barbeyanum</i>
Class 3B (2)	1. Phil Taylor & Eileen Bahemia	Paph. Gold Dollar
	2. Phil Taylor & Eileen Bahemia	<i>Paph. liemianum x Paph. philippinense</i>
Class 5B (1)	1. Phil Taylor & eileen Bahemia	Phal. (Musaskino x Hsinying White) x Phal. Ginrei 'Ching Hua AM/AOS
Class 6B (1)	1. Phil Taylor & Eileen Bahemia	Onc. Aloha Iwanaga 'Masa'
Class 7B (3)	1. Phil Taylor & Eileen Bahemia	V. Somsri Pink x V. Donna Rome Sanchez x V. Mamdam Rattana
	2. Nancie & Bob Jones	Angcm. Longiscott
	3. NAS	
Class 11B(2)	1. Phil Taylor & Eileen Bahemia	Zga. Pine Road 'Pure Destiny' x ' Zga. Dynamite White Lips'
	2. NAS	

Novice:

Class 15A (2)	1. John & Dorothy Walton	<i>Enc. fragrans</i>
	2. Merrilyn Brechin	<i>Enc. alata</i>
Class 15B (1)	1. N/A	
	2. John & Dorothy Walton	Blc. Toshie Aoki 'Pokai'
Class 18E (1)	1. NAS	
Class 20A(1)	1. John & Dorothy Walton	<i>Aspasia ?lunata</i>

POPULAR VOTE: Open - V. Somsri Pink x V. Donna Rome Sanchez x V. Madam Rattana - Phil Taylor &
Eileen Bahemia

Novice - *Den. schulleri x affine x gouldii* - John & Dorothy Walton

Schokman Trophy Points: N/A

CYMBIDIUM CULTURE NOTES /FEBRUARY/MARCH 2009) by Roy Brown.

The next month or two are the most important ones for the successful flowering of Cymbidiums. The new growths must be kept growing so they will bulb up in time to produce their flower spikes. To do this they will need as much light as they can take without actual burning of the leaves, plenty of fertiliser and water.

During the next two months we can expect continuing high temperatures, and accompanied with this, hot dry easterly winds. See that your cymbidiums receive an ample supply of water; water at least twice a day. We must try to create as much humidity as possible during the summer months if we are to grow Cymbidiums with any success at all. When watering your plants, use a fine mist spray and leave it on long enough to thoroughly saturate the compost in the pots and surroundings.

This is the time of the year when young flower spikes are starting to develop and a drop in temperature during the evenings is vital for the successful flowering of Cymbids. If we use the overhead sprinklers in the evening this will bring the temperature down quite a few degrees and will create ideal growing conditions.

during March we see the first signs of flower spikes. Be very careful when handling these plants, the spikes will be very brittle and damage easily. With the advent of flower spikes, it might be a good idea to give the shade-house a clean up. Get rid of all dead leaves, weeds and anything else that could harbour pests.

Make sure you have a supply of pots and compost ready for those repotting jobs that can be started in the Autumn.

CATTLEYA CULTURE NOTES (FEBRUARY/MARCH 2009) by Henry Eaton.

the weather has, as expected, been hot, excessively so at times and is likely to be the same in this period. As such, the aims of culture are to keep your plants well hydrated and as cool as possible. This means regular watering without getting the mix soggy. A little drying out between watering is acceptable and will be appreciated by the mature plants. Do not allow seedlings to dry out completely as this may set them back. Avoid any potting at this time. Continue your fertiliser programme but try on any days forecast to be cooler than 30-35C if possible. If the days are very hot, especially if in the high 30's or 40's give consideration to watering your plants in the late afternoon or evening to cool everything down. This will also increase the humidity. Increase the shading if necessary. Sometimes removing the shade cloth on the shadiest side of the growing area, or raising the lower border off the ground, helps in letting in more air and cooling the place down.

Keep a lookout for flowering sheaths and flower buds breaking through so that they can be separated from those areas which are being watered most. This helps to stop water collecting in an open flower sheath, leading to rotting off of the buds.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 23/1/2009

Welcome: The President opened the meeting at 8.07 pm, welcoming Members and visitors.

Apologies: Henry Eaton, Tom & Ellen Dixon, Maree MacDonald, Lorna Dodd, Faye Patfield

Minutes: Moved Marilyn Brechin, seconded Rod Pohl that the Minutes of the meeting of 19th December 2008 be confirmed. **Carried.**

Business Arising: The new OSWA web page is operational. [www.orchidsocietywa.net.au]
Comments or contributions to Rod Pohl.

Correspondence:

Inwards:

- Dept. for Planning and Infrastructure: bill for trailer registration fee.
- Letter from Mandurah Districts Orchid club concerning their Committee for 2009.
- Thank you card from Tom Dixon.
- Confirmation of membership renewal from American Orchid Society.
- Society Newsletters and Bulletins.
- Various items of junk mail.

Outwards:

- Cards to Tom Dixon, Faye Patfield, Betty Rensen.
- Information about OSWA (email response to email enquiry)

Business Arising: Nil.

Confirmation: Moved John Walton, seconded Sharon Lyster, that Correspondence Inward and correspondence Outward be endorsed. **Carried.**

Financial statement: (Nancie Jones)

Moved Rod Pohl, seconded Alice Lang, that the financial statement be received. **Carried**

New members (application): Nil.

Reports:

- Nil

General Business:

- The next meeting is the AGM. Nominations for the next Committee and office bearers are required now.
- The next Inter-Society Challenge is to be hosted by Bunbury OS and held at Eaton Hall, Pratt Rd, Eaton on 1st & 2nd August 2009.
- The 2012 Conference Committee is looking for a treasurer. If interested in volunteering for this worthy cause, see Ian Duncan.
- Anyone planning on attending the Melbourne AOC Conference this year who would be willing to help out with setting up a WA display, packing flowers to ship to the conference for the display, and promoting the 2012 conference, etc, please contact a member

- of the OSWA Committee
- Jack and Betty Rensen were presented with the Harold Hill Memorial Trophy for the Best Phalaenopsis of the Spring Show.
- Home Open: Jim and Kaye Baylis, 18 Wheyland St, Willagee, 22nd March 2009 from 11 am Bring salads, sweets, drinks. Sausages, tea and coffee will be supplied. \$5 pp, proceeds to OSWA.

Supper

Popular Vote: Novice - *Den. Schullerix affine x gouldii*, owner John Walton

Open - V. Somsri Pink x V. Donna Rome Sanchez x V. Madam Rattana. Owner Phil Taylor.

Raffle: Rod Pohl, Bob Jones, Meg Brown

Door Prize: Jim Baylis

Evenings Programme: Plant auction. Auctioneer: Ian Duncan 67 plants sold, including many orchid species and hybrids.

The meeting was closed at 10.15 pm.

Bill Murdoch

Every year in our Show Schedules (usually Spring) we find a prize called The Bill Murdoch Trophy. This is an award which can be nominated for by the owner of an Australian Native Species should it win Best Australian Native Species in the show. The nomination can be forwarded to be considered for the Bill Murdoch Trophy. Most are aware of this award but how many of us know anything of the man this trophy honours?

Bill Murdoch was born in 1895. The Defence Act of 1905 decreed all males liable to perform National Service, firstly as cadets from 16-18 years of age, then in the militia. Bill began as a cadet in 1911 then after two years transferred to the militia. When WW1 broke out in 1914, he enlisted in the A.I.F in on 2nd February 1915. In May he embarked on the "Thermistocles" for Suez, then on to Gallipoli on the "Alaunia". After having served here, he was transferred back to Australia dangerously ill. As soon as possible he was off again, this time to France where he saw service in the Somme Valley. He was wounded here and evacuated to England. After recovery from his wounds, he went back to France in 1918 where the war finally ended.

He remained an Anzac, like his mates, and resumed military training back home with the drill hall being his responsibility. In 1939, when the 2nd World War came around, he was ready to go off to fight Hitler. He was appointed "Voyage Officer" only in the "Aquitania" from Bombay in 1941, but stayed on military service back home for the duration, retiring with the rank of Lieutenant –

Colonel. Purchasing land at Coal Point, Lake Macquarie, Bill built his home there. A conservationist all his life but very much resented anyone calling him a “greenie”, he was just a genuine carer for the environment. He had a deep and abiding love for nature, not only on the land he owned, but any he saw wherever he went. He loved all plants, but was not a collector of any particular ones until he encountered native orchids. He loved to talk about, know and protect all plants should they need it, but native orchids came above all. Their desperate need for survival and what he did about it, became part of his legacy to his country. This was the certainty that one whole plant family would survive for evermore. Because of his dedication (along with hundreds of other dedicated people) and years of continuous work, a new industry was developed in Australia. Small at first but now over the \$1m. a year mark, Australian native species and the exquisite hybrids that have been developed, are making a big impression in the multi-billion dollar world orchid industry. They are now exported to America, Europe and Japan and still building up. In the late fifties, he was worried about the careless, mindless destruction of the native orchids by commercial logging and indiscriminate collecting by local entrepreneurs. In 1963, with three other enthusiastic friends, he formed the Australasian Native Orchid Society (ANOS), dedicated to the conservation and study of all orchid species occurring in the Commonwealth of Australia and its Territories, New Zealand, PNG and all Pacific Islands east of Australia to the International Date Line and south of the equator. In addition, all hybrids whose parentage came from anywhere in this huge designated area. Bill Murdoch, at his own expense, toured throughout Australia, speaking on native orchids and encouraging people to form ANOS groups. The next step was a Society Journal which was called the Orchadian. A quarterly publication it is the only one in Australia which concentrates solely on our own native species, and on these grounds cannot be equalled world-wide. A young 68 when he started this Society, he watched with pride the increasing awareness of conservation and the developing hybrid industry.

Bill Murdoch passed away on 24th July 1989 at the age of 94, regrettably too soon to see his legacy to Australia reach the world wide recognition that it enjoys today.

If not claimed return to:
58 Gladstone Road
Leeming 6149