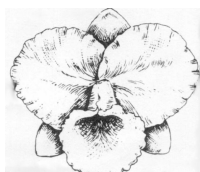


# THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ORCHID BULLETIN

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

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ISSUE DATE: FEBRUARY  
2010

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 26th February 2010 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 J. Walton  
Tel 9419 6253

## **SECRETARY**

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

## **TREASURER**

Mrs N. Jones  
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Mrs M. Godbeer  
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## **BULLETIN EDITOR**

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## MARCH MEETING DATES

Judging Panel 7.30 pm Monday 1st  
OSWA Committee 7.30 pm Friday 5th  
General Meeting 8.00 pm Friday 26th

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

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**Birthdays: February 7th**– Jim Baylis, **10th** - Henry Eaton, **11th** - Nancie Jones, Len Munnings, **20th** - Lois 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.

**OSWA Website:** The new website is now online at <http://www.orchidsocietywa.net.au/>

- **Home Open:** The next Home Open will be at Ann & Malcolm Davis' home, 4 Ryans Court, Redcliffe, on Sunday 28th March from 11.30 am. More details later. The Baylis' Home Open previously set for March will be held later in the year.
- **Shed Cleanout & BBQ:** Please note the date has changed for the shed cleanout!! This will now take place on Sunday April 18th. This is in preparation for the 2010 round of Shows and does not take too long. A sausage sizzle follows for all to enjoy. Start time—10:00 am. The shed is situated at the back of Hazel McDougall House in Clydesdale Street Manning/Como.
- **Membership Fees:** As of **31st October** we are now in our new financial year and members are reminded that membership fees for 2010 are now due. Anyone who has joined OSWA in the last three months is financial for 2010. **Double membership- \$26.00, Single membership - \$21.00**
- **A belated THANK YOU** to Kevin Butler for his generous donation of extra raffle plants at our Xmas Meeting.
- **Orchid Judging Panel of WA BBQ:** Sunday 21 Feb. 2010 The Peel Region Orchid Society is hosting a BBQ to support the OJPWA. Cost will be \$12 per head which includes food, tea & coffee, auction, raffles etc (BYO drinks) More details later, but pencil this event into your calendar now. It will be a great way to meet growers from other societies and support the Judging Panel.
- **OrchidWiz:** The people at OrchidWiz ([www.OrchidWiz.com](http://www.OrchidWiz.com)) have kindly donated a copy of OrchidWiz software for auction by OSWA. This is fantastic software for orchid enthusiasts and is already being used by a number of growers in Perth. It includes a comprehensive database, thousands of pictures, and the ability to add information and photos of your own plants. We will arrange a demonstration of OrchidWiz at a general meeting early in the year and will auction the software at our auction in May.
- **Upcoming Meeting Items:** **February** - AGM and Wine & Cheese Night, **March** - Unusual Plants, & How I Got into Orchids, **April** - Slide Night about The Eric Young Foundation **May** - Auction **June** - Forum about Fertilising Orchids.
- **Competition Plants:** Don't forget these plants are due for assessment at the March General Meeting, with the prize money being presented to the winner at the April General Meeting.
- **Show Dates 2010:**
- **Autumn Show at Stocklands Riverton Shopping Centre** - Set up 4 May, Show 5-8th May
- **Winter Show at Scout & Guide Hall** - Set up 24th July, Show 24-25 July
- **Spring Show at Kardinya Shopping Centre** - Set up 31 August, Show 1-4 September
- **Perth Royal Show at Claremont Showgrounds** - Set up 24 September, Show 25 Sept - 2 Oct.
- **Potting Workshop at Scout & Guide Hall** - 17th October

More details regarding these Shows will be given nearer the time.

Hundreds of FREE (used) 2" pots. These are suitable for seedlings, tube-stock etc. but need to be washed before use. If you want any please let Murray know

**RESULTS OF PLANT COMPETITION - (MONTH - JANUARY 2010)****Open:**

Class 1A (3)	1. Nancie & Bob Jones	<i>Enc. alata</i>
	2. Ian Duncan	<i>Enc. alata</i>
	3. Maxine Godbeer	<i>Brassavola tuberculata</i>
Class 1B (1)	1. Nancie & Bob Jones	Blc. Chatoyant 'Great Purple'
Class 4A (1)	1. Murray & Arnie Baker	<i>Den. bracteosum</i>
Class 4C (2)	1. Maxine Godbeer	Den. Micky Hew
	2. Murray & Arnie Baker	Den. Peppermint
Class 7A (4)	1. Maxine Godbeer	<i>Aerides fieldingii</i>
	2. Maxine Godbeer	<i>Podangis dactyloceras</i>
	3. Maxine Godbeer	<i>Angcm. diderii</i>
Class 8A (1)	1. Ian Duncan	<i>Den. lichenastrum</i>
Class 10B(5)	1. Maxine Godbeer	<i>Bulb. macranthum</i>
	2. Murray & Arnie Baker	<i>Bulb. giriwoense</i>
	3. Maxine Godbeer	<i>Promenea stapelioides</i>
Class 11A(2)	1. Maxine Godbeer	Phrag. Mem. Dick Clements
	2. Maxine Godbeer	Phrag. Calurum
Class 11B(1)	1. Ian Duncan	Z. Artur Elle 'Essendon'

**POPULAR VOTE:**

Open: *Enc. alata* - Nancie & Bob Jones

Schokman Trophy Points: Blc. Chatoyant 'Great Purple' (69 pts.) - Nancie & Bob Jones

Jim Grantham Memorial Trophy Points: Phrag. Mem Dick Clements (70 pts) - Maxine Godbeer

Richard Nichols Trophy Points— *Lyc. deppei x candida* (70 pts) - Anne & Geoff O'Callaghan

### CYMBIDIUM CULTURE NOTES (FEBRUARY/MARCH 2010) by Roy Brown

These are hot months with the temperature in the high 30's, so regular use of the overhead sprinklers are an absolute must. Create as much humidity as possible, keep the pots and the area around your shade house plants as damp as possible.

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

For those who grow their plants under 50% Sarlon Shade Cloth you will find the plants leaves have become a yellowy green colour, this is mainly because of the bright light we experience here in WA, the skies being cloudless during the summer months. Provided the bulbs are nice and plump and the plants are healthy, this yellowing is a good sign that your plants could flower this season. A plant grown under too heavy shade conditions will have a dark green, lush foliage and will not produce as many flower spikes as one that has been grown under bright sunlight.

Give your plants a good spraying with an insecticide to keep them free from red spider, thrips, scale etc. It's during the next couple of months that the flower spikes are produced and it is a good idea to have the plants free from all insects well in advance, so that no harm comes to the young flower spikes as they show up.

### CATTLEYA CULTURE NOTES (FEBRUARY/MARCH 2010) by Henry Eaton

February and March are usually the hottest months for us in the West. This means keeping up with cultural practices employed in the Summer, mainly shading the plants and providing sufficient moisture and fertiliser to them. Beware though, that Cattleyas by and large, benefit by alternating dry and wet periods. This means not watering them, unless loss of weight of the potted plant indicates that water is needed. I was reminded of this when I had to repot a plant, growing out of a pot in many spots, recently. Although previously potted in bark of large size, the mix was wet through from the watering it had the day before. When a plant is growing over the edge of a pot, another technique to use is to place another pot full of mix under the overgrowth, so that roots can establish there before repotting in Autumn or Spring.

At this time also begin to look for flowering sheaths or buds appearing on mature new growths. When spotted, move them into an area free of pests and away from water dripping on them. If moved, make sure the buds point in the same direction they were in before you moved them. Many autumn flowering plants will now begin showing buds and sheaths, so be on the lookout for them.

**The Orchid Society of WA (Inc.)**  
**Minutes of the General Meeting held in the Collins Street Hall, South Perth,**  
**On Friday 22nd January 2010**

**Welcome:** The President opened the meeting at 8.03 pm and welcomed the members and one visitor present, as per register.

**Apologies:** Five apologies were received, as per register..

**Minutes:** Moved J Brabin, seconded S Lyster that the Minutes of the previous meeting be accepted. **Carried.**

**Business arising:** Nil

**Correspondence Inward:**

- American Orchid Society subscription notice
- Dept. of Transport bill for trailer registration
- City of south Perth re booking of Ernest Johnson Scout Hall
- City of South Perth requesting items for the "Village Voice"
- Vallarta Orchid Society, Mexico, re fundraising to support an Orchid Conservatory at the Vallarta Botanic Gardens that will hold the largest collection of Mexican orchid species in Mexico
- Mandurah O.S re 2010 show dates
- Enquiry about membership and subsequent membership application from Aishya Ghose and Reena Strehle
- OJPWA, minutes from Registrar's meeting of 21st November 2009. Includes advice of new approach for labelling Specimen and Seedling entries at shows, using different colour cards
- WAROO call for agenda items for next meeting (11 April) and invoice for affiliation fees
- Jim O'Hare: Information about the Judges fundraising BBQ on Sunday 21/2/2010
- State Library of WA, request for a copy of the November Bulletin (which was not received)

**Correspondence Outward:**

- OSSEA: request for info about Orchid Show in 2010
- Coralie Hills (AOC): Jean Herbert's write up of Kardinya Show and 2010 show dates for Orchids Australia
- Jim O'Hare (OJPWA) + other orchid societies: OSWA 2010 Show Dates
- OrchidWiz: Acknowledge of receipt of software

**Business Arising:** Nil

- John Walton noted that there will be an auction of plants (preferably orchids!) and items in May. The OrchidWiz software that has been donated to the club is worth well over \$300 and is well worth having, and will be the top item up for auction.

**Confirmation:** Moved B Rensen, seconded K Baylis, that Correspondence Inward and

**Confirmation:** Moved T Dixon, seconded B Rensen, that Correspondence Inward and Correspondence Outward be endorsed. **Carried.**

**Financial Statement:** No statement was available at the time of the meeting.

**New Members:** None.

**Reports:** None

**General Business:**

- The President Mr. John Walton advised that next months meeting is the AGM. He called for nominations for the OSWA Committee and other positions, and encouraged new members to consider nominating.
- After some discussion it was agreed that the Home Visit scheduled at Ann & Malcolm Davis' home would remain on Sunday 28th March even though this date would cause difficulty for some members.

**Popular Vote:**

- **Open:** *Encyclia alata* grown by Bob Jones. Bob grew this orchid in his shade house on a low bench. The racemes were tall and took some effort to stake, but the result was impressive.
- **Novice:** No entry

**Raffle:** D Mitchell, J Walton, B Jones, M Donald.

**Evening's Programme:** Forum about watering

**Meeting closed at 9.30 pm**

### **January Meeting Item - Forum about Watering**

Ross Lang opened the proceedings talking about his experiments with a new type of pot. He is experimenting with pots having no holes at the bottom, but a few holes in the sides, 30 mm from base and higher. The position of the holes keeps a 30 mm deep reserve of water in the bottom of the pot. The water rises up the potting medium (eg expanded clay) to keep the roots moist, and the reservoir allows for less frequent watering than with standard pots. For large plants, 9 litre buckets can be turned into inexpensive pots by appropriately -drilled holes. Ross also showed samples of some synthetic media - expanded clay, Perlite and Fytocell. Fytocell (available from Hydroponic Solutions in Balcatta) soaks up a lot of water but retains air in 60% of its pores, and is proving good for Ross's small Cymbidiums. Ross warned of the risk of using cheap plastic clips to hold black 13 mm pipe onto barbed tees etc. in irrigation systems. The plastic clips break easily, especially after they've been in place for a year or so, and he recommends metal hose clamps instead. He also warned of poorly designed 13 mm barbed taps that can be used with watering systems - certain poorly designed taps are liable to be blown apart if the water pressure is high. Ross showed a type of misting unit (made by Netafim and available from Total Eden or Watershed Water systems) which he uses for short periods about 5 times a day to keep the orchid environment humid and cool.

More of this Forum will be continued in the next Bulletin - Ed.