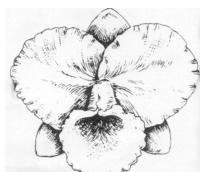


# THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ORCHID BULLETIN

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

VOLUME 50 No 3



ISSUE DATE: MARCH  
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 March 2010 commencing at **8.00p.m.**

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

## THIS MONTH'S MEETING ITEM:

**"UNUSUAL ORCHIDS & HOW I GOT INTO ORCHIDS"**

## PRESIDENT

Mrs K. Baylis  
Tel 9337 6210

## SECRETARY

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

## TREASURER

Mrs M. Perry  
79 Mason Court Southlake 6164  
Tel. 9417 2862

## REGISTRAR

Mrs M. Godbeer  
2195 Hidden Valley Rd.  
Parkerville 6081

## BULLETIN EDITOR

Editor: Maxine Godbeer  
Tel. 9295.5448

## APRIL MEETING DATES

Judging Panel 7.30 pm Monday 5th  
OSWA Committee 7.30 pm Friday 9th  
General Meeting 8.00 pm Friday 23rd

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

GENERAL NEWS	2
MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION	3&4
CULTURAL NOTES –CYMBIDIUM	4
CULTURAL NOTES– CATTLEYA	4
MINUTES	5&6
WATERING FORUM NOTES	6

**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:** **March 8th**– Margaret Jess & Dot deGruchy, **9th** - Bob Jones, **11th** - Merrilyn Brechin, **14th** - Maree MacDonald **19th**– Jack Rensen, John Walton **24th** - Raye McIntosh **25th** - Lorna Dodd **26th** - Kaye Baylis **27th** - Mick May **31st** - Kon Doornbusch

**April 5th** - Alex Szabo **7th** - Rosemary McGrath **10th** - Bernadette Campbell **12th** - Karen Carless **13th** - Hector Patfield **17th** - Mike Burgess **21st** - Anne O'Callaghan **23rd** - Ron Brown

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 Bulletin:** The Bulletin is now online at <http://members.iinet.net.au/~murray.baker/OSWA>

Kaye Baylis would like to thank the members for electing her as the President of OSWA. She hopes to do a good job over the next 12 months and that the Society has a great year in 2010.

If you are happy to download the Bulletin from the web and not receive the printed copy by post, please let Murray know ([murray.baker@iinet.net.au](mailto:murray.baker@iinet.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.
- **Shed Cleanout & BBQ:** This will 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.
- **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. There will be a demonstration of the software before the auction at the May meeting
- **Upcoming Meeting Items:** **March** - "Unusual Plants, & How I Got into Orchids". Bring along your unusual plant to talk about, or share your stories about how you were turned on to orchids. If you have some problems with a plant or two, bring the plant along to talk about that too. **April** - Slide Night about The Eric Young Foundation **May** - Auction **June** - Forum about Fertilising Orchids.
- **July** - Protecting your orchids from the cold in Winter
- **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.

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

Vale Doris Butler

It was with deep sadness that we learnt of the recent passing of Mrs Doris Butler. A visit to Ezi-Gro will not be the same without a little chat to her on the way in or out. Although she was never a member of any clubs or societies there would be few orchid growers who do not have some of her "orchid babies" in their collection.

Deepest sympathy is tendered to Kevin and all members of her family

## RESULTS OF PLANT COMPETITION - (MONTH - FEBRUARY 2010)

**Open:**

Class 1A (1)	1. Ian Duncan	<i>C. bowringiana</i>
Class 1B (2)	1. Maxine Godbeer	Hknsa. Koolau Sunset 'Hawaii'
	2. Henry Eaton	Blc. Waikiki Gold 'Lea'
Class 1C (1)	1. NAS	
Class 1D (2)	1. Henry Eaton	Ctna. Maui Maid x <i>C. walkeriana</i>
	2. Jack & Betty Rensen	Lc. Seagull 'Gold Pixie'
Class 1F (1)	1. Maxine Godbeer	Epi. Unknown
Class 3A (2)	1. Jack & Betty Rensen	<i>Paph. godefroyae</i> 'Dark Brown' x same
	2. Jack & Betty Rensen	<i>Paph. godefroyae</i> 'Dark Brown' x same
Class 3B (4)	1. Jack & Betty Rensen	Paph. Sally Berndt
	2. Howard Tan	Paph. Lynleigh Koopowitz
	3. Howard Tan	Paph. Magic Lantern
Class 3C (1)	1. Howard Tan	<i>Paph. lawrenceanum</i> x Paph. Ruby Leopard
Class 3D (2)	1. Howard Tan	<i>Paph. delenatii</i> x Paph. Norito Hasegawa
	2. Howard Tan	Paph. Honey x <i>Paph. malipoense</i>
Class 4A (1)	1. Jack & Betty Rensen	<i>Den. dearei</i>
Class 4C (2)	1. Ian Duncan	Den. Palolo Sunshine 'Red Wings'
	2. Maxine Godbeer	Den. Unknown
Class 5A (3)	1. Jack & Betty Rensen	<i>Phal. violacea</i> 'Red Face'
	2. Jack & Betty Rensen	<i>Phal. violacea</i> 'Alba'
	3. Jack & Betty Rensen	<i>Phal. violacea</i> 'Blue' x same
Class 7B (1)	1. Fred & Jean Herbert	Ascda. Bicentennial 'Carmela'
Class 10B(1)	1. Maxine Godbeer	<i>Cym. chloranthum</i>
Class 11B(2)	1. Maxine Godbeer	Phrag. Mem. Dick Clements
	2. Maxine Godbeer	Phrag. Geralda

**Novice:**

Class 15B(2)	1. John & Dorothy Walton	Blc. Talana
	2. Ross & Alice Lang	C. Hawaiian Wedding Song 'Virgin'
Class 15C(3)	1. Merylyn Brechin	C. Lulu 'Pink Blush'
	2. Merylyn Brechin	C. Interglossa x Blumen Insel
	3. Merylyn Brechin	Pot. Horu Gem 'Super Spot'
Class 18C(1)	1. John & Dorothy Walton	Den. Green Melon
Class 20E(1)	1. Merylyn Brechin	Onc. Popcorn 'Pink'
Class 25B(1)	1. John & Dorothy Walton	Ctsm. Susan Fuchs x Jumbo Pearl

## POPULAR VOTE:

Open: Phrag. Geralda - Maxine Godbeer

Novice: C. Lulu 'Pink Blush' - Merylyn Brechin

Schokman Trophy Points: Blc. Talana (72 pts) grown by John & Dorothy Walton

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

### CYMBIDIUM CULTURAL NOTES (MARCH/APRIL 2010) by Roy Brown

March and April bring in the change of seasons from Summer to Autumn. However we still have plenty of hot days ahead of us, although by the middle of April the weather pattern should change and become more suitable for Cymbidiums.

It's during the Autumn that a start can be made on re-potting our plants. Take care when dividing and re-potting; it isn't very easy untangling the mass of roots the plants develop, but if care is taken the new division will suffer very little set-back when repotted. The Cymbidiums roots are very active now and the plant will become quickly established in the new compost.

The early flowering plants are now producing their flower spikes and these should become more apparent each day. These early spikes grow very quickly and most will be in flower by June/July.

A regular fertilising programme can still be continued, and if you like, a little extra Potash can be added. This will give the young spikes an added boost. The weather pattern is still for warm days but cooler nights, so give the shade house at least one good watering a day, preferably in the mornings.

### CATTLEYA CULTURAL NOTES (MARCH/APRIL 2010) by Henry Eaton

Although March is technically the first month of Autumn, we can still expect days when the temperature goes quite high and there is little, if any, rain around to increase the humidity. The light may be decreasing slightly, but the heat still requires that you maintain shading as for the Summer months. Watering and fertilising your plants will still follow a summer pattern, unless there is rain when you can miss a watering if needed. Cattleyas are plants that revel in a wet/dry cycle, where they like to dry out nearly fully before being watered again. You can gauge this by lifting up the pot after watering when it should feel heavy. The pot loses weight when drying out, giving you the signal to re-water.

At this time of the year, due to the cooler nights, check your plants after watering to make sure no water has collected in between the upper leaves. This is essential, as at this time many plants will be producing flowering sheaths and buds, and water remaining around them could cause rotting. If water has collected dry it up with a tissue. While attending to your plants, also stake the pseudo bulbs bearing the buds or flower sheaths erect, so that when the flowers emerge they will be pointing towards you and not every which way.

If you have a flowering house out of the rain etc., make sure that the plant is pointing in the same direction as which it was grown, as otherwise the buds may open in an unsightly fashion.

**Remember you can purchase your orchid supplies from the Opportunity Table at each General Meeting.**

## The Orchid Society of WA (Inc.)

### Minutes of the General Meeting held in the Collins Street Hall, South Perth, On Friday 26th February 2010

**Welcome:** The President opened the meeting at 8.00 pm and welcomed the members and visitors present. Attendance and apologies as per register.

**Minutes silence:** the President called for a minute's silence for Mrs Doris Butler

**Minutes:** Moved A. Lang, seconded H Eaton that the Minutes of the previous meeting be accepted. **Carried.**

**Business arising:** Nil

#### Correspondence Inward:

- George Booth, re Singapore Garden Festival and Orchid Show
- Mandurah OS re Office Bearers 2010
- City of South Perth re booking of Scout Hall for our Winter Show
- WA Dept of Commerce re Information Sessions about clubs: benefits of incorporation, legal obligations of associations, members rights, committee members' responsibilities and liabilities.
- Augusta and Districts OS, re 2010 committee and Show dates
- Scott & Broad re insurance
- Garden clubs of Australia re their bulletin
- Various items of junk mail
- Society Newsletters

#### Correspondence Outward:

- Card to Kevin Butler
- Email to Water Corporation thanking them for permits to water orchids on non-allocated days
- AOS re back issues of Orchids Magazine

**Business Arising:** E Dixon moved a vote of thanks to J Walton for his efforts in organising the watering permits from the Water Corporation

**Confirmation:** Moved B Rensen, seconded M Brechin, that Correspondence Inward and correspondence Outward be endorsed. **Carried.**

**Financial Statement:** No financial statement was tabled as the treasurer was in hospital

**New Members:** the President welcomed Mrs Aishya Ghose and Mrs Reena Strehle

**Reports:** Nil

#### General Business:

- Home Open at Malcolm and Ann Davis' place, 28th March
- M Donald visited two orchid societies in the Newcastle region (NSW) and brought back some interesting ideas: draw the raffle before the Popular Vote, and have members place an unused raffle ticket under the pot of their choice for popular vote (pot with most tickets wins, saves filling out slips): instead of plant

prizes for popular vote, winners have their plant photographed and receive the photo (laminated and with details of the grower etc) at the next meeting: have new pots or other items from the opportunity table as alternative to plants: use honey to encourage keiki growth on Epidendrum

**The meeting was adjourned for the AGM at 8:15 pm and reconvened at 8:35 pm.**

**Raffle:** Ian Duncan, Ross Lang. **Door Prize:** Maxine Godbeer

**Evening's Programme:** Wine & Cheese

**Meeting closed at 9:00 pm**

Forum about Watering continued

Murray showed off various watering devices he has used, from cheap spray attachments that fit on plastic drink bottles to not-so-cheap but robust 8L Hozelock pump sprayers (both from Bunnings). The Hozelock sprayer is about the right size for a batch of fertiliser solution for his collection, while a 1L soft drink bottle fitted with a spray attachment is a convenient size for a batch of insecticide to treat a small outbreak of scale. Murray uses a 13 mm black pipe system fitted with "Microjet Mistspray" heads (which produce spray rather than mist) to water his orchids when he doesn't have time to water by hand. Murray also had a couple of misting fittings to show: a simple black mister unit (from Watering Concepts, Belmont) that Rosemary McGrath said was prone to blockage from salts, and the Netafim type of misting unit used by Ross Lang (and Malcolm Davis) which can be dismantled for cleaning. Malcolm spoke of the benefit of having an anti-drip device in this type of mister (to prevent water from the pipes dripping onto the orchid directly under the mister for hours after the mister is turned off). Malcolm and Tom Dixon stressed the importance of having misters pointing horizontally to cover a large area rather than pointing downwards (where they will only cover the plants directly below unless there is wind movement to blow the mist around)

Bob Jones told us about his electrical pump with 63L reservoir on wheels. The pump feeds water (or fertiliser solution etc) into a high pressure hose with a fitting that produces a fine spray, and 3L does his whole collection. The kit cost \$25 at a garage sale!.....to be concluded next issue.

Fyto Cell: available from Hydroponic Solutions, Unit 1 1928 Beach Rd. Malaga

([www.hydroponicsolutions.com.au](http://www.hydroponicsolutions.com.au))

Netafim Mistlers: available from Irrigation Management Services, 87 Croker Drive, Malaga 6062, and also from The Watershed Water Systems (various locations around Perth, including 2874 Albany Hwy Kelmscott) and some Total Eden stores (various locations around Perth)

Plant pots, Perlite, pot hangers, fertilisers, flower buckets (with no holes) : Garden City Planters, Unit 2, 11 Mallaig Way, Canning Vale 6155

### **Popular Vote winners in February**

**Novice:** C. Lulu "Pink Blush", grower Merrilyn Brechin who grows it under 50% shade cloth, with an extra layer of 50% shade cloth in summer to keep the plant from getting too hot. Fertilising is weekly or fortnightly with 'Ionic' and watering is daily during summer (twice daily on extra hot days). During winter the plant receives the winter rain. The plant has many roots growing outside the pot and is due for repotting after flowering is finished.

**Open:** *Phragmipedium Geralda*, grower Maxine Godbeer who obtained this plant from Nicky Zurcher (South Australia) many years ago and this was the first flowering. It is a hybrid of *Phrag. caudatum* and *Phrag. lindleyanum*. The long petals are a trait derived from the *caudatum* parent. The plant is grown in coconut fibre, the pot standing on a layer of blue-metal in the lid of a polystyrene box. Water pools in the lid and creates humidity and the metal keeps the pot elevated so it isn't soaking in the water. It is grown in a hothouse where the extra humidity helps to keep the long thin petals from drying out. Fertilised once a week & given a good flush through about every third time. It flowers progressively (new flowers open on the raceme as older ones die off) & can flower on the same raceme for a long time.