

# THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ORCHID BULLETIN

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

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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 24th August 2012, Commencing at **8.00 pm**

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**THIS MONTH'S MEETING ITEM:  
PAPHIOPEDILUM – TREVOR BURNETT**

**SEPTEMBER MEETING DATES:**

Judging Panel            7.30 pm Monday 3rd  
OSWA Committee        7.30 pm Friday 7th  
General Meeting         8.00 pm Friday 28th

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**Birthdays:**

**August:** 18<sup>th</sup> – Tom Dixon 19<sup>th</sup> – Judith Keogh 26<sup>th</sup> – Meg Brown **September:** Bob Longmore

Best wishes to anyone else celebrating Birthdays or Anniverseries. To any member on the sick list, may you soon be well.

The **OSWA Bulletin** (and other information) is now available at [www.orchidsocietywa.net.au](http://www.orchidsocietywa.net.au)

**New Members:** Sandra Krishnan, Winthrop, Courtney Rogasch & Maureen Gilmore. Welcome to the Society, may your membership be enjoyable.

**General News:**

- **Name Badges:** If you haven't a name badge, please see Ian and let him know. When at our shows or displays we would like name badges to be worn, so it is easy to see that you are not one of the public helping themselves to orchids. Not all of our members are familiar with each other, so it is made easier if you are wearing a badge.
- **Conference:** We need helpers for the conference Committee & also for OSWA's sales table which is at the Conference. If you can spend a couple of hours we, OSWA & the Conference Committee will be happy to see you. Please let us know if you can help in any way. Also if you could please let us know if you think you will have any plants for entry at the Conference, because after they have been judged they will be placed in the Display. I know it is a little early to know what is going to be out, but if you think you might have some plants we would like to know. Thanks.
- **Winter Show & Casserole Night:** Our numbers were down, but when we added up that there were 19 members either away on holiday or on the sick list, we didn't do too badly. The Casserole Night was thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended. We must thank Trevor & Barbara Burnett for the excellent evening's entertainment. The food was great & everyone went home with a prize. Thank you Barbara & Trevor. My thanks go to Raye who kept the kitchen on track. To all the helpers in the kitchen, sales table, door and those who kept our public informed about the orchids. Congratulations to all who entered plants & to those who won the prizes.
- **Spring Show:** Kardinya Shopping Centre, south St. Kardinya. Set-up is Tues.28 August. Entries received from 6.30 – 7.15 pm. Judging 7:30 pm. Open to the public 29 August –1 September. Member plant sales Thurs, Fri, Sat. Dismantle Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September 4-4.30 pm.

We will need helpers to man the show, so please think about giving us a couple of hours. Remember, many hands make light work. None of us are getting any younger, so any amount of time you can spare would be greatly appreciated. Also the shopping centre doesn't close until 9 pm each night, so this makes it a long day for a few helpers.

- **Perth Royal Show Display:** at Claremont Showground. Set-up Friday 28 September (12 noon). Open to the public 29 September-6 October. Take down Sunday 7 October early a.m.

We will need helpers setting up, taking down, and looking after OSWA's display at the show. Any volunteers please call Rosemary on 9367 9306.

- **Potting Workshop:** Scout & Guide Hall, Pilgrim St. South Perth Sunday 21 October, set-up 8:30 am. Workshop commences & open to the public 10am-4pm. Plants potted, talks, sales, display & refreshments available.
- **19<sup>th</sup> AOC Conference:** 11-16 September at the Burswood Entertainment Complex. Open to the public from 13-16 September inclusive. OSWA is putting on a display and still needs volunteers for jobs at the conference. **Anyone who can spare a few hours, please contact Murray.**
- **Orchid Virus Test Kits:** Kits to test for the most common orchid viruses (Cym. Mosaic virus & Odontoglossum Ringspot virus) can be purchased from a supplier in the Eastern states. The kits work a bit like pregnancy test strips. Each kit contains 25 test strips and will cost about \$300 inc. freight or about \$12 per test strip. The cost will come down a little for larger orders If anyone is interested in a group purchase of a kit (or more), contact Murray Baker
- **Entry numbers for AOC Conference: Please make sure you make a note of your individual entry number if you wish to enter plants at the conference.**
- **Please Note:** Our Christmas Meeting will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of December (14<sup>th</sup> December)

RESULTS OF MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION (JULY 2012)**Open Class:**

Class 1F (1)	1. Bob & Nancie Jones	Bl. Yellow Bird
Class 3B (1)	1. Maxine Godbeer	Paph. Fanaticum
Class 7A (1)	1. Maxine Godbeer	<i>Angraecum equitans</i>
Class 8B (1)	1. Bob & Nancie Jones	Den. Pinterry x Sunglow
Class 10B (2)	1. Maxine Godbeer	<i>Dendrochilum tenellum</i>
	2. Maxine Godbeer	<i>Dendrochilum wenzellii</i>
Class 11B (1)	1. Peter & Shirley Masters	Z. Advance Australia

**Novice Class:**

Class 16C (1)	1. Valerie Cooper	Cym. Unknown
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POPULAR VOTE: Open: Paph. Fanaticum – Maxine Godbeer

CYMBIDIUM CULTURAL NOTES (AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2012) by Roy Brown

Time is running towards the spring months. This means more and more of our Cymbidiums will be opening their flower buds, so see to it the racemes are staked properly and securely. Some varieties need no staking: they have thick, upright stems that are self-supporting, but others will need to be tied to stakes. When doing this, place the stake as near the flower stem as possible. Tie the stem firmly, but not too tightly, as it will continue to lengthen and must not be hindered in its growth. If you intend to exhibit the plant in any of the society's orchid shows, then do not allow the stake to be higher than the flower stem.

Repotting should now be in full swing. As the early plants finish flowering, a start can be made on dividing and repotting these. This will give the plant the benefit of a full year's growth in the pot, and should enable the plant to make up its new bulbs in time to produce its early flowers again next season. Any plants that are not going to flower this season can also be repotted, this will allow you more time later on in September to repot the plants that are now in spike, as their turn comes.

Keep watch for any insect pests, just one slug, snail or caterpillar can ruin the whole spike, and your whole 12 months effort. Baysol is the best remedy for slugs or snails.

CATTLEYA CULTURAL NOTES (AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2012) by Henry Eaton

We are now coming into the blooming season where the last of your plants will complete their annual flowering. To present these flowers well, make sure the pseudo bulbs are tied vertically and the emerging flower buds are facing towards the main source of light. Be careful with watering, as water remaining on the flowers at nightfall may lead to spotting with *Botrytis* fungus, ruining your display. If there are any bud sheaths that hold water, peel them open or remove them altogether. To avoid spotting, water them early in the morning on a bright day so they can dry off by nightfall. Good luck with your efforts.

This is also the time to think of repotting. Gather together the pots and potting mix you will require. Your choice of mix should be based on the time you can spare to thoroughly water your plants, thinking especially of summer when it is hot and you would rather stay inside than out. Also think in terms of how long you would like to go between pottings. The finer the mix tends to break down faster, and this means more frequent potting. Also small plants will need a finer mix than adult flowering ones. Finer mix also holds more water and less air between the particles. Repotting should start as soon as you see new roots appearing from the pseudo bulbs and before they get longer than 2-3 cms.

PAPHIOPEDILUM CULTURAL NOTES (AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2012) by Trevor Burnett

The plants have expended considerable energy in producing and supporting flowers. The early varieties' flowers will now be coming to an end. It is now time to look towards the task of repotting and replacement of the growing medium for the following reasons:

- (a) The plant has grown too large for the existing container.
- (b) Potting material has broken down and must be replaced
- (c) Plant has naturally divided into two plants.
- (d) Have purchased plants from various sources, in flower, through the flowering season.

Paphiopedilum are repotted in a variety of growing medium which are generally bark or wood chip based. Most plants require repotting every 2<sup>nd</sup> year for larger pots or more often if in smaller pots. Small plants respond to repotting more frequently, with increases in growth.

The watering habit of the grower will influence mix selection. If you are a compulsive user of water and have difficulty in withholding watering, then you will need a more open mix to allow the plants to dry out a little between watering. On the other hand, someone who is sparing with watering, or is away from home for a period, may require a finer mix that is able to maintain water longer. A finer mix can be obtained by using the bark mix and adding some sphagnum moss to the mix.

My watering programme comes back to 10 days between watering.

My general mix that I use is:

- (a) 4 parts clean bark
- (b) 1 part charcoal
- (c) 1 part polystyrene or perlite
- (d) Added to the above, some dolomite lime and slow release fertilizer

Text books recommend growing the plants in small pots, but I personally do not like bonsai, so I grow my plants in larger pots (130mm or 140mm) and get good results. I believe you obtain larger growths which, at the end of the season, results in larger and stronger flowers.

I also make a habit of repotting any new orchids purchased or swapped etc., into my own medium as soon as possible. A lot of the time members purchase plants from many sources and leave them in the existing mix, as the mix looks fine. This is a trap as your watering & fertilizing programme is developed for your mix and conditions. It is extremely hard to manage when you have a variety of mixes in various degrees of decomposing.

### **The Orchid Society of WA (Inc.)**

#### **Minutes of the General Meeting held in the Collins Street Hall, South Perth on Friday 27th June 2012**

**Welcome:** The President opened the meeting at 8:03pm and welcomed those present.

**Apologies:** As per the register

**Minutes:** Moved V. Cooper, seconded. G. Talbot, that the Minutes of the previous meeting be accepted. **Carried**

**Business arising:**

- Plants from the previous meeting (June) were presented to the winners.

**Confirmation:** Moved N. Jones, seconded B. Jones, that the Business Arising has been resolved. **Carried**

**Correspondence:**

- To Ray Dunbar, Info about growing cymbidiums (in response to enquiry)
- Cards to M. Brechin, E. Dixon, M. Davis (Get Well) and B. Rensen (thank you for donated rug)
- Emails to J. O'Hare re 2013 autumn show date and December Meeting date (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday December 14<sup>th</sup>)
- Email to OSNSW re. props etc., they require for the Conference.
- Email exchange with J. Sowden (Garden Clubs) re. aspects of our new insurance policy with LTM Risk Partners (especially re. lack of insurance cover for selling re-packaged potting mix)

- Email exchange with Norm Martin to arrange OSWA and Bunbury exchanging bulletins by email.
- From AOC, invoice for OSWA's membership of the AOC (\$100)
- From Coralie Hills (AOC) requesting info about OSWA for Association Liability Insurance (protection of committee Members). Replied by email.
- From City of South Perth, confirmation of bookings for Scout Hall and Collins St. Hall, up to 14<sup>th</sup> December 2012 and revised fees for the venues.
- Society bulletins & junk mail

**Business Arising: Nil**

**Confirmation:** Moved M. Perry, seconded S. Lyster, that the Correspondence Inward and Correspondence Outward be endorsed. **Carried**

**Financial Statement:** Ian Duncan presented the Financial Statement and accounts for payment.

**Confirmation:** Moved F. Herbert, seconded J. Baylis that the Financial Statement be received & accounts for payment be approved. **Carried**

**New members:** K Baylis welcomed Sandra Krishnan, Courtney Rogasch and Maureen Gilmore to the Society

**Reports:**

- **Judges:** Roy Brown presented the Show Results from several Societies.
  - **Winter show & Casserole Night:** Kaye Baylis thanked those who attended and that our numbers were down but there were 19 members either away on holidays or on the sick list. Kaye thanked Barbara & Trevor Burnett for the great entertainment during the evening. Food was excellent.
  - Kaye also reported on the progress of the Conference props, and thanked those who have helped.
  - Next Morning Tea 7<sup>th</sup> August at 10:30 am Burswood Hotel. Meet at the Concierge Desk
1. **General Business;**
- **AOC Conference:** We still have a stack of flyers to promote the AOC Conference. Members please take many and distribute them widely.
  - Val Yates reported that she has not been receiving the Bulletin (June & July) Kaye gave her the July bulletin and will print off the June one to give to her at the Open Day at Trevor & Barbara's.

**Popular vote: Open:** Paph. Fanaticum – Maxine Godbeer.

**Raffle:** Judy Brabin, Maxine Perry, Fred Herbert.

**Door Prize:** S. Lyster

Plant prizes were not available, so are to be received at the July general meeting

**Evening's Programme:** Auction & OrchidWiz. There were not a lot of plants for auction and the OrchidWiz software was won by Val Yates. Kaye thanked those who brought plants along.

**Meeting closed at 9:30 pm**



**Little more than a year to go!**  
**Check the calendar and register to come to the**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Australasian Native Orchid Society**  
**Conference & Show.**  
**Held at Strathpine (Queensland, Australia).**  
**Hosted by Kabi Group(Inc).**  
**Full Conference - 22-24<sup>th</sup> August 2013**  
**Public show days - 23-24<sup>th</sup> August**  
**ANOS Gen. Meeting for affiliated members 25<sup>th</sup> Aug**  
**For fuller details see [www.ourshopfront.com/kabi](http://www.ourshopfront.com/kabi)**  
**and follow the Conference link.**



**OSWA Winter Show****Grand Champion, Best Species, Best Vandaeae**

*Angcm. sesquipidale* - Ian Duncan

Beautiful clean, clear white flowers. Two spikes each with two open flowers & one bud.

**Reserve Champion, Best Australian Native Hybrid**

Den. Hilda Poxon – Ian Duncan

A plant with six spikes of beautiful, yellow/green flowers with red/purple spots, on very well presented sprays.

**Champion Paphiopedilum**

Paph. Fanaticum – Maxine Godbeer

This large- pouched Paph. is a pale sage green with burgundy markings.

**Best Paphiopedilum Seedling**

Paph. TB Karen Wish x TB Battle – Trevor Burnett

This was a large flower with deep markings on the petals. The large, white dorsal also had deep burgundy spots.

**Best Phalaenopsis**

*Phal. Amabilis* – Jack & Betty Rensen

A very attractive Phalaenopsis which displayed eleven white flowers 55mm across.

**Best Dendrobium**

Den. Alice's Thomas x *Den. carronii* – Ian Duncan

This plant carried three racemes, two were still in bud the third had nineteen opened Antelope style flowers of a deep burgundy red.

**Best Phragmipedium**

Phrag. Calurum – Maxine Godbeer

This flower, carried on a tall stem, had pink/mauve petals and pouch.

**Best Oncidiinae, Best Novice Plant**

*Onc. Flexuosum* – Meg Donald.

This was a pretty orchid with dainty, yellow flowers. This plant carried eight fully open sprays and two which were still in bud.

**Best Australian Native Species**

*Den. linguiforme* var. *nugentii* – Bob & Nancie Jones

This plant exhibited hanging sprays of white flowers.

**Best Cymbidium**

Cym. Del's Delight 'Buttercup' – Ian Duncan

There were two spikes of eleven clear yellow, medium sized flowers on this plant.

**Best Laeliinae Alliance**

Epi. Star Valley 'Lake View' – Ian Duncan

This had a cluster of gold/yellow flowers atop a 45mm raceme, the size and colour of which were lovely.

**Best Any Other Genera**

*Dendrochilum tenellum* – Maxine Godbeer

This was a multi-flowering plant with dainty cream flowers. A "fairyland of flowers".

**Best Specimen**

Blc. George King 'Serendipity' crossing – Jack & Betty Rensen

Nine large well- presented flowers were on this specimen plant.

**Best Floral Art**

Meg Donald – a black container containing miniature pink/brown sprays of flowers, tortured willow and Asparagus foxtails, all arranged to display good lines.

**The OSWA Library**

OSWA has an extensive library of orchid books and magazines that can be borrowed at the monthly meetings. The library collection ranges from books about orchid culture for beginners through to detailed books about orchids from particular regions of the world. Each month, the librarian (usually rosemary) displays a selection of items from the library on the side table in the meeting hall, but most of the collection stays stored away, so if you are looking for a book or magazine and you don't see one on display, it is worthwhile asking.

OSWA maintains a subscription to *Orchids Australia*, the official publication of Australian Orchid council (AOC). This magazine has articles on many topics, ranging from brief cultural notes for growing various genera in different regions of Australia through to detailed articles about newly discovered species, historical accounts of orchid work, new ways of potting or mounting orchids, information (including pictures) about shows of other orchid societies in Australia and orchids that have received Awards, and general news from the Australian orchid community. Many members (and all AOC judges) have a personal subscription to *Orchids Australia* (currently \$55 including postage, 6 issues per year, see <http://orchidsaustralia.com>). It is well worth a read, and if you don't have your own subscription yet, why not borrow an issue or two from the library?

We also maintain a subscription to *Orchids* magazine, which is the bulletin of the American Orchid Society (AOS). This magazine is similar to its Australian counterpart, but often has articles on genera that are less familiar to growers in Australia.

One of my favourite library books is *Orchid Pests and Diseases*, a small volume that has lots of interesting information and pictures to help diagnose and treat various orchid ailments. (When you have seen the sad state of some of my plants, you will know why this book is of interest to me.) Since it is produced by the American Orchid Society, this book mentions some things that will be odd to Australian growers (for example it mentions a fungicide called Physan which is not readily available here) but I still find it a very useful book. Another favourite is *Flora's Orchids* from ABC Gardening Australia. This book has pictures and a paragraph or two of information on over 1500 orchids, mainly species.

My most favourite books are the four books published during 1980-1985 by J.N. Rentoul in his *Growing Orchids* series. Rentoul (1909 -1991) was a prominent and knowledgeable Australian grower, and his books are an amazing, somewhat rambling, but still very readable mix of history, cultivation notes, botany, construction advice and orchid- grower ethics. The books are oldies but goodies, and I noticed one lucky new member received one of these books as their "Welcome to OSWA" book...I do hope that was a duplicate, because it would be a terrible shame to lose these wonderful books from the library.

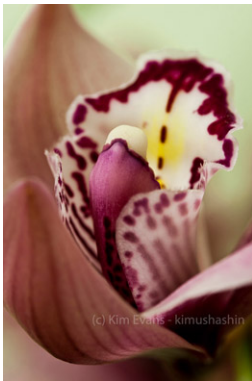
Courtesy of Murray Baker

### Vale Anne O'Callaghan, 21-4-1944 to 28-7-2012

All who knew Anne could not help but be touched by her in some way. Anne was a long-standing, knowledgeable and enthusiastic member of our Society, and probably most others in the Metropolitan area. Always friendly and helpful to anyone who sought her advice, her main passion was the Australian Native plants, although she had a vast collection of any genera that took her fancy—and there were many. Anne was a wonderful grower who had struggled with serious health issues for many years but was determined it would not rule her life. She was a wonderful, generous spirited friend whom I, and many others, will miss dreadfully. Our sympathy goes to Geoff and their sons Robert, Billy & Liam. Rest in peace Anne.

### "Anthropomoflora"

OSWA members may be interested in "Anthropomoflora", an art exhibition being held in Northbridge in September. The exhibition is being put on by photographer Kim Evans, mixed-media artist Jessica McCallum, and florist Stacey Lenstra of Beans and Bunches in Northbridge. The exhibition is centred on finding human qualities within flowers, and while it isn't just about orchids, orchids do have a major presence in it.



"The Recalcitrant"



"Preach"



A postcard image

The details: Anthropomoflora  
15th - 23rd September 2012  
Smartspace  
474 William Street  
Northbridge

Open Monday to Sunday, 10 am - 2 pm, entry is free



### Some of the winning orchids from our Winter Show

Grand Champion

Best Species, Best Vandaeae

*Angraecum sesquipedale* (Owner: Ian Duncan)



Reserve Champion

Best Australian Native Hybrid

*Dendrobium* Hilda Poxon (Owner: Ian Duncan)



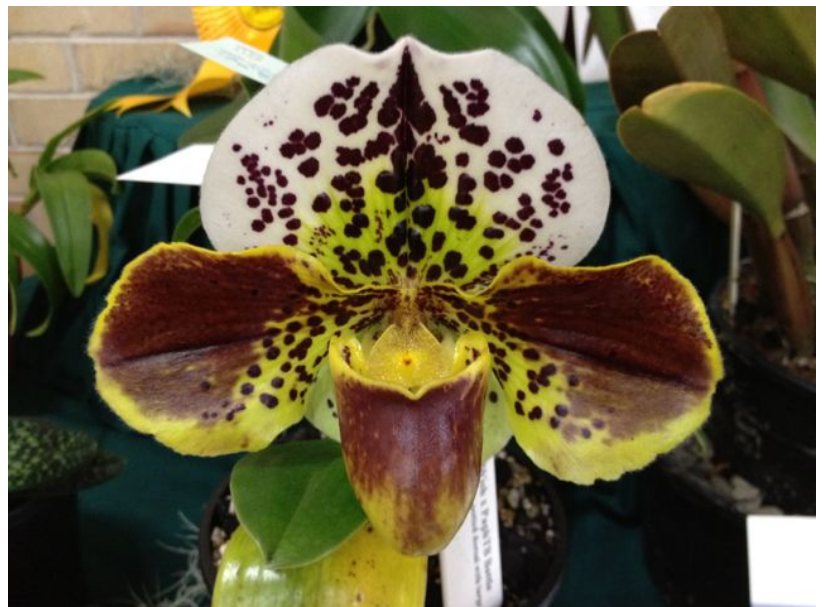
Best Oncidiinae, Best Novice Entry

*Oncidium flexuosum* (Owner: Meg Donald)



Best Paph Seedling

Paph. TB Karen Walsh x TB Battle (Owner: Trevor Burnett)



Champion Paphiopedilum  
Paph. Fanaticum  
(Owner: Maxine Godbeer)



Best Specimen  
Blc. George King 'Serendipity'  
(Owners: Jack & Betty Rensen)



Best Australian Native Species  
*Dendrobium linguiforme* var. *nugentii*  
(Owners: Bob & Nancie Jones)



Best Any Other Genera  
*Dendrochilum tenellum* (Owner: Maxine Godbeer)

