

# 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 25<sup>th</sup> May 2012, Commencing at **8.00 pm**

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**THIS MONTH'S MEETING ITEM:  
COMPANION PLANTS  
PRESENTED BY JUDY BRABIN**

**JUNE MEETING DATES:**

Judging Panel            7.30 pm Monday 4th  
OSWA Committee        7.30 pm Friday 1st  
General Meeting         8.00 pm Friday 22nd

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**Birthdays:**

**May:** 7<sup>th</sup> – Dorothy Walton 9<sup>th</sup> – Ellen Dixon **June:** 2<sup>nd</sup> – Tom Seaman 9<sup>th</sup> – Fred Herbert, Edna Burgess 17<sup>th</sup> – Maggie Longmore, Liu Shen Pohl

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)

**General News:**

- **Shed Clean-up Day:** 15 members turned up to help with the shed clean-up. I would like to thank all who attended for their help. It was a wet morning but only one heavy shower. We swept out the shed and some border fencing was repaired. The trailer was packed up and we then enjoyed a sausage sizzle. Thanks to Nancie & bob for the use of their portable gas stove & to Trevor & Tom for cooking our lunch. Thanks also to Nancie for the potato salad & coleslaw, to Merrill, Val & Barbara for the great morning tea of scones with jam & cream & little tarts.
- **Busy Bee:** We will be organizing a busy Bee for the making of any props for the conference display. Keep an eye on the Bulletin for a time & date for this.
- **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.
- **Coffee Morning:** Held on the 8<sup>th</sup> May was a great success. We discussed a lot of bits for the conference display and sales area. **Next Coffee Morning** is to be held on June 19<sup>th</sup> at David Jones Coffee/Café- 1<sup>st</sup> floor, Booragoon Shopping Centre. Come along & enjoy a social coffee with us.
- **2012 Show Dates: Winter Show:** Scout & Guide Hall, Pilgrim St. South Perth. Set-up Sat. 21<sup>st</sup> July (8-9:30am). Judging 9:30–11:30 am. Open to the public 21<sup>st</sup> (12 noon) & 22<sup>nd</sup> July. Member plant sales daily
- **Spring Show:** Kardinya shopping Centre, south St. Kardinya. Set-up Tues.28 August (6-7pm). Judging 7:15-9:30 pm. Open to the public 29 August –1 September. Member plant sales Thurs-Sat.
- **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.
- **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.
- **Other Dates to put in your calendar: Casserole evening** Saturday 21 July, Scout & Guide Hall, Pilgrim St South Perth 6:30pm for a 7pm start. Bring a casserole or sweet for sharing. BYO drinks & a plant or gift for the raffle. We hold this event in with our Winter Show orchid display – a great conversation piece, a lot of fun, terrific company & food. All for \$5 per person.
- **Home Open:** Trevor & Barbara Burnett's home, 33 Salisbury St. Beechboro, Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2012 from 11am. BYO drinks, chair, and bring a salad or a sweet to share. \$5 per person for the sausage sizzle. Also bring a plant or gift for the raffle. OSWA does supply the sausages, onions & rolls.
- **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 also having a sales area. If you can help in any way with plants or a couple of hours, please let Kaye, Murray or a committee member know. The Conference Committee will also need people to help with a variety of sections at the Conference. A list of the areas that require people to help will be printed in the Bulletin. Please, if you can spare a couple of hours it will help to make life a little easier for the hard working Conference Committee. Please let Kaye or Murray know of your intentions to help. Remember "many hands make light work"
- **Annual Plant Auction:** To be held at the July General Meeting. As well as plants there will be a copy of OrchidWiz Express 2012 up for auction. OrchidWiz Express includes basic information about cultivation of species & hybrids, 4000 colour photos of the most common orchids, comprehensive genealogy charts, an orchid journal to keep track of your plants and more. For more information visit [www.orchidwiz.com](http://www.orchidwiz.com). We will have a demonstration of the software before the auction
- **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

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

Class 1B (4)	1. Ian Duncan	Blc. Sylvia Fry 'Dundas' x Blc. Tribute 'Independence Day'
	2. Jack & Betty Rensen	Lc. Blue Kahili 'Delft Beauty'
	3. John & Karen Carless	Blc. Dewy Forest
Class 1C (4)	1. Ian Duncan	Lc. Little Suzie 'Joy'
	2. Jack & Betty Rensen	Lc. Angel 'Hihimani' x Lctna. Dalstoy 'Happy Man'
	3. Ian Duncan	Ctna. Maui Maid x C. Penny Kuruda
Class 4B (1)	1. Ian Duncan	Den. Maikhong
Class 7B (1)	1. Jack & Betty Rensen	Kgw. Christie Low 'Red'
Class 9A (1)	1. NAS	
Class 10B (1)	1. Rosemary McGrath	<i>Stenoglottis longifolia</i>
Class 11A (2)	1. Maxine Godbeer	Phrag. Conchiferum
	2. Maxine Godbeer	Phrag. Calurum
Class 11B (1)	1. John & Karen Carless	Z. Kiwi Choice x Hmwsa. Oakbank

**Novice Class:**

Class 15B(2)	1. Marilyn Brechin	Blc. Bryce Canyon 'Splendiferous' x Blc. Donna Kimura 'Paradise Tami'
	2. Marilyn Brechin	C. Bob Betts 'Maryann' x C. Maraelyn Sugiyama 'Crestline'

**Junior:**

Class 14 (1)	1. Dana Mitchell	C. Bryce Canyon 'Splendiferous'
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Schokman Trophy Points: Lc. Little Suzie 'Joy' (73 pts) – Ian Duncan

Jim Grantham Memorial Trophy Points: Phrag. Conchiferum (72 pts) – Maxine Godbeer

POPULAR VOTE: Open: Blc. Sylvia Fry 'Dundas' x Blc. Tribute 'Independence Day' – Ian Duncan

Novice: C. Bob Betts 'Maryann' x C. Maraelyn Sugiyama 'Crestline' – Marilyn Brechin

CYMBIDIUM CULTURAL NOTES (MAY/JUNE 2012) by Roy Brown

During May some of the early flowering Cymbidiums will be in flower. Others will have flower buds showing through the protective sheath on the stem. Once they reach the stage where the flower buds are visible, it's time to move the plants out of the shade house and into the flowering house, where more protection can be given to them. Heavy rain or hail can chip the soft buds and so leave a permanent mark, also strong winds can cause the plants leaves to rub on the flower and this too will cause a blemish.

Cymbidiums like to grow in a position where there is plenty of free air movement, so don't completely enclose the flowering house like a glass house. This could be the reason for bus drop. Give them protection overhead from the heavy rain and also close off sides which face the strongest winds. Don't overcrowd your plants, if possible give them plenty of room between each pot.

By the end of May we can expect cold, wet wintery weather. Watering will also depend on the weather, but don't allow the pots to become dry, particularly those in spike, and those under cover.

Keep the shade house and flowering house well baited Baysol pellets for slugs and snails, particularly now that flower buds are showing.

CATTLEYA CULTURAL NOTES (MAY/JUNE 2012) by Henry Eaton

Autumnal weather has at last been established with relatively cold nights and warm days. This has meant that those plants that flower in autumn have begun to do so with plenty of blooms. The weather forecasting boffins predict that the La Nina effect that has been determining our weather pattern is now diminishing and normal weather patterns at this time of the year should return. As always, culture of your plants will be dependent on the prevailing weather. Because of the cold there will be a slowing of activity in the plant, so that watering needs will lessen and fertilization can be reduced to once a month or so. This is not a good time for repotting unless the mix in the pot has deteriorated badly, or new roots are being formed and are over the edge of the pot. In the latter instance an alternative is to place the whole plant in a larger pot without disturbing the mix, and fill the remaining space with moist, fresh mix. Repotting can be completed in the spring. The other method is to place a pot full of mix beneath the roots spilling over, so they can establish themselves in it and not be air pruned, as would otherwise occur. As the intensity of the sun now declines, all shading can be removed and the plants will benefit from the increased warmth and light.

To protect the flowers from spotting with Botrytis, try and maintain a good flow of air around the plants by hanging them up or keeping a fan blowing gently over the plants. The flowers also need protection from slugs and snails by placing baits in the pot and near the flower sheath. Also keep water off the flowers by hand watering into the pot and growing the flowering plants where they are out of the reach of the rain.

After flowering, plants can be grown in an area where they can experience a rest period, during which they receive little or no water, until they show signs of activity again with the appearance of new roots or a swelling growth bud at the base of the pseudo bulb.

PAPHIOPEDILUM CULTURAL NOTES (MAY/JUNE 2012) by Trevor Burnett

Similar growing conditions as last month, but as the conditions cool, reduced watering will also be necessary. I personally, reduce my watering back further to once every 10 days, but I am always mindful that we could still get some of those unexpected hot days when watering will need to be adjusted. We would need to get 3-4 hot days in a row before I would adjust my watering programme.

We should be seeing a good proportion of our plants now producing spikes, and the early flowering types will be well advanced and should be staked to prevent twisting and breakage, as the spikes will be soft and not fully set to support the flower.

The plant growth will have started to slow considerably on the flowering plants as all the effort is now being channeled into supporting the flowers. Fertilising programmes need to be adjusted, going to fertilizer with less nitrogen and more phosphate and potassium, to improve the strength and quality of the flowers.

The smaller un-flowered plants will still require fertilizer at  $\frac{1}{4}$  -  $\frac{1}{2}$  strength, on a fortnightly or monthly basis, to keep the growth moving forward.

With more buds appearing weekly, continue staking plants using meat skewers, wire stakes or thin bamboo canes. If you decide to use wire, ensure the top is turned over and watch your eyes don't get poked when working with plants.

If you are moving plants to a different area to flower, ensure they are returned to the same orientation to the previous light source. Turning plants can cause flower stems to become twisted, spoiling the effect if you wish to enter them in the various shows.

My tip for the month is – if you are growing the plants without heat (which I do during the winter) I tend to keep the plants dryer than usual, as wet, cold conditions are often fatal to roots.

**19<sup>th</sup> AOC Conference**Bulletin No.9

Only 21 weeks to go!!

Our event is taking shape extremely well with 350 registrants already booked. We expect more to be added to this as we have at least one tour group from the USA, which looks like being about 50 people who are yet to book. A reminder to one and all that if you have not yet registered, the next deadline is 31<sup>st</sup> July for the close of standard registrations. Even though the tours and the dinner are sold out, the registration is still exceptional value with the range of Speakers, complimentary satchel, early photography access, ability to pre-order plants and flasks (thus ensuring you do not miss out), and not forgetting the Opening Ceremony on the night before the public opening, where you will be rubbing shoulders with many world class orchid personalities.

Vendors – We have sold all vendors places in the main marketplace and are now selling spaces in the foyer area.

The display and show room is also booked out and some displays will also be in the foyer area. We have participants, including vendors, coming from Taiwan, Singapore, USA, Europe, Thailand, Indonesia, New Zealand, China and from across Australia. We are encouraging our vendors to submit their orchid catalogue for pre-ordering. We already have the first of these catalogues, from Ecuagenera, on the Conference web site at

[http://www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/Pre-Ordering\\_Orchids.htm](http://www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/Pre-Ordering_Orchids.htm)

And speaking of our web site we now have a large, enlightening variety of information for your interest. The Lecture Programme is now revealed [http://www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/Lecture\\_Program.htm](http://www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/Lecture_Program.htm) along with the Display Specifications and the Judging Standards for Floral art Classes.

[http://www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/Conference\\_Schedule.htm](http://www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/Conference_Schedule.htm)

Orchid Talks for the Public – We are hopeful of strong public attendance and have significant active public programmes including cultural talks and demonstrations on most of the commonly grown orchids planned. These talks and demonstrations will take place in the Market Place. The event is to be promoted through newsprint, both local and state wide as well as on radio and television, getting our message out to as many interested locals as possible.

The Conference Lecture Programme – the Lecture Programme is now online at

[http://www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/Lecture\\_Program.htm](http://www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/Lecture_Program.htm) We have moved the Lecture Program from the initially planned Botanical Room at the Burswood into the Astral Room because of the large numbers now anticipated. This means that all elements of the Conference will take place on the same floor level.

Accommodation Shortage – If you are coming to the 19<sup>th</sup> AOC Conference & Show in Perth and have not yet booked your accommodation, you might wish to consider doing so sooner rather than later. Accommodation in Perth is becoming extremely tight due to the extensive activity in the mining industry. Western Australia is experiencing significant growth in the minerals and petroleum industries with numerous major projects under construction and increased mining activity which is impacting on accommodation facilities in Perth. Although these projects are principally in the Pilbara region, the accommodation shortages are forcing more and more companies to implement additional fly in/fly out (FIFO) arrangements which are impacting all of Perth's accommodation availability, particularly that which normally services tourists and conference delegates. A list of local hotels/motels can be found on the 19<sup>th</sup> AOC Conference web site at – <http://www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/Accommodation.htm>

Outstanding International & Australian Speakers – The 19<sup>th</sup> AOC conference & show in Perth presents a unique opportunity to hear some of the world's most acknowledged orchid specialists speak on their favourite topics. Amongst these is the renowned Roy Tokunaga of H&R Orchids of Hawaii. Roy will deliver two lectures about his groundbreaking work on both Dendrobium & Cattleya breeding. Roy says... "working on Dendrobium hybridizing using tetraploids, I will cover the information Dr. Haruyuki Kamemoto provided us in using amphidiploids to create new combinations and break the sterility barrier in intersectional hybrids. I will give information on Hawaii's flower booster formula as a bonus". And on Cattleyas... "creating new colours using C. intermedia var. aquinii in mini & compact Cattleyas. More information on the use of tetraploids in creating uniform plants. I will be giving some of my flasking tips for the younger generation". <http://www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/Speakers.htm>

The Conference Tours – Most of our tours, including a five day trip to the south west to look and photograph WA's unique native orchids, sold out within days of being made available, even though we had increased the capacity on the tours as we realized that they would be popular. Even so, places were limited due to shortage of accommodation in regional towns which we will visit. But!!! The Swan Valley Tours, both Full Day & Half Day still have vacancies. Conference Registrants will be given first preference on all tours.

Sponsorship – Perhaps your society or individual members would be interested in sponsoring individual classes or a major prize in the AOC Orchid Show. Any sponsorship, large or small, would be appreciated and would also be acknowledged in the registrants' handbook & online at the 19<sup>th</sup> AOC Conference web site. Perhaps too, you may know of a business that would be interested in sponsoring a major prize or individual classes. The Conference Committee would be pleased to hear from them. We anticipate good public attendance and with radio, television and newspaper publicity, this would be a golden opportunity for any sponsor to have fantastic exposure with little outlay. In theory, it will be eighteen years before an AOC Conference returns to Perth as it is held triennially and on a rotation basis so as you can see it will be a long time before the opportunity arises again.

Burswood Name Change – It seems that there will be a change to the name of the venue for the 19<sup>th</sup> AOC Conference & show toward the end of this year. We hope this will not confuse our visitors so we will keep you up to date from time to time.

Do not miss this opportunity to participate in what promises to be an outstanding AOC conference.

Should you have any questions regarding the 19<sup>th</sup> AOC conference, feel free to contact the Chairman, [bruce@pegasusconsulting.org](mailto:bruce@pegasusconsulting.org), the Secretary [aocconference@dodo.com.au](mailto:aocconference@dodo.com.au) or the Webmaster [waos@iinet.net.au](mailto:waos@iinet.net.au)

Tony Watkinson

## The Orchid Society of WA (Inc.)

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

**Welcome:** The President opened the meeting at 8:00pm and welcomed those present.

**Apologies:** As per the register

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

**Business arising:**

- Photos were sent to S. Brown re his Aunt Beryl, formerly of OSWA
- The President thanked T. Burnett for his article for the April Bulletin

**Confirmation:** Moved M Brechin, seconded M Donald that the Business Arising has been resolved. **Carried**

**Correspondence Inward:**

- From AOC (Pam Bartlett): Minutes of AOC AGM Octobe 2011 and order forms for copies of AOC Constitution & By-Laws (!)
- Exchange of emails with John Sowden of GCA to arrange early payment of OSWA's insurance premium so we can obtain a Certificate of Currency in time for Autumn show.
- From Garden Clubs of Australia, requesting OSWA for a submission for the position of Zone Coordinator for Perth south Zone of GCA
- Exchange of emails with David harmer of Orchid Club of SA re exchange of OSWA & OCSA bulletins via email rather than post in the future
- Email exchange with Merle Arrah to see which prizes at the Conference remain to be sponsored.
- From bruce Larson, re clubs to receive \$1000 for setting up 3mx3m or larger display at AOC Conference
- From Neutrog, Autumn newsletter
- From Crown content re our info for Directory of Australian Associations
- From Jenny Martin re members names/entry numbers for AOC Conference
- From Marina Noveska requesting info about OSWA (replied by email)
- From Garden Clubs re our bank details & request for cheque for \$60 (affiliation fees)
- From Ocean Expo Park (Japan) re Asia Pacific conference in Okinawa, Feb. 2013
- Society bulletins & junk mail

**Business Arising:**

- It was agreed that OSWA would sponsor awards for Champion Laeliinae species & Champion Phalaenopsis Species at the AOC Conference in September
- Possibility of holding raffles at the Riverton Show was raised. R McGrath to investigate

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

**Financial Statement:** Ian Duncan presented the Financial Statement.

**Accounts for Payment:** EziGro (2 months' worth of plants). Moved M Douglas, seconded M Brechin that the accounts for payment be approved. **Carried**

**Confirmation:** Moved M Davis, seconded P Stacy that the Financial Statement be received. **Carried**

**New members:** Nil

**Reports:**

- AOC Conference planning: (1) K Baylis advised that OSWA has been allocated a 3mx6m display area (larger than original allocation). (2) John Pearson is seeking volunteers for potting demonstrations, cultural talks etc at the AOC conference. Part of the conditions of the Lottery Commissions Grant is that the conference will have people giving instruction on orchid culture to members of the public. Information about tasks for volunteers and a call for volunteers was included with the postal version of the April Bulletin but not the electronic version.
- Autumn show: R McGrath outlined arrangements for the Autumn Show at Riverton Forum. Help is needed with the roster to look after the display, and to look after the sales table. Members offering plants for sale should have at least one plant in the display.

**General Business;**

- A very large stack of flyers to advertise the AOC Conference is available from M Baker. Members are encouraged to take some and distribute them to libraries, shopping centre noticeboards etc...
- B Rensen generously donated a crocheted rug to be raffled for Mother's Day
- M Douglas generously donated a serviette holder, to be raffled later this meeting
- Reminders: Shed cleanup & BBQ from 10 am Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April: Morning Coffee at the Galleria 8 May
- T. Burnett has prepared a handbook for new members, which includes information about OSWA, our history, contact details, information on pronunciation of orchid names, etc. and is kindly producing the booklet at no cost to OSWA.

**Popular vote: Open:** Blc. Sylvia Fry 'Dundas' x Blc. Tribute 'Independence Day' – owner I Duncan. Grown under 70% white shade cloth (shading from 50% was not enough). **Novice/Junior:** C. Bob Betts 'Maryann' x C. Maraelyn Sugiami – owner M Brechin. Grown in a shade house with extra shading from November

**Raffle:** Gloria Talbot, Trevor Burnett, Sharon Lyster (serviette holder). **Door Prize:** Karen Carless

**Evening's Programme:** Preparing plants for shows (Jim O'Hare).

**Meeting closed at 9:40 pm**