

# 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, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2014, commencing at **7.30 p.m.**

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**THIS MONTH'S MEETING ITEM:**

ORCHID BONSAI

TREVOR BURNETT

**JULY MEETING DATES:**

Judging Panel            July 7th  
OSWA Committee        7:30 pm Fri 4<sup>th</sup> July  
General Meeting         7:30 pm Fri 25<sup>th</sup> July

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**Birthdays: June:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Seaman, 9<sup>th</sup> Fred Herbert, Edna Burgess, 17<sup>th</sup> Maggie Longmore, Liu Shea Pohl

**July:** 1<sup>st</sup> Kevin Butler, 15<sup>th</sup> Dana Mitchell, 16<sup>th</sup> Maureen Grantham, 18<sup>th</sup> Roy Brown, 19<sup>th</sup> Judith Keogh, 26<sup>th</sup> Meg Brown

Best wishes to anyone else celebrating Birthdays or Anniversaries. To any member on the sick list we wish you a speedy recovery & may you soon be well.

**New Members:**

**Name Badges:** If you haven't a name badge, please see Ian and let him know. Not all of our members are familiar with each other, so it is made easier if you are wearing a badge.

**General News:**

- **Reminder that General Meetings will commence at 7.30pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month.**
- **Cottesloe Central:** Orchid Display Set Up 9<sup>th</sup> July 6.00pm to 9.00pm. Display & Daily Plant Sales 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> July. As this is a new venue we would like all members to support the Display. There will be financial incentives for the most plants displayed (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>). Please give a list of your plants on Display to the Show Secretary. Plant Sales tickets will be available at the General Meeting.
- **Winter Show:** Scout & Guide Hall, Pilgrim St. South Perth (behind South Perth Community Hospital), set up Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> from 8.00am Entries received until 9.30m Judging 10.00am Open to the Public 12pm to 4.30pm Sunday 10.00am to 4.00pm Plant Sales daily. We would like someone to help set up the Display of entered plants. Please contact Kaye. Also helpers during the day.
- **Casserole Evening will be combined with the Plant Auction at the July General Meeting.** Members to bring a casserole or sweet to share. BYO drinks. Tea & Coffee available. More details at the June General Meeting.
- **Floraplant Visit:** Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 10.00am 822 Rowley Road, Oakford. All welcome
- **Orchids in Paradise:** Mackay Qld Friday 18<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2015 – registration forms available at the June General Meeting,
- **Membership subscriptions: 2014 subs are now well overdue.** If you have not already done so please contact Ian Duncan on 9364 5439 re payment. \$26.00 for a Double & \$21.00 for a single membership.
- **Postage Price Increase:** If at all possible we would appreciate more members receiving their Bulletin by Email. If members would prefer to receive their Bulletin electronically then please contact Murray with your Email address, to save costs.

**Show Dates for 2014:**

- **Display: Cottesloe Central Shopping Centre**  
Set up Sat. 9th July (6.00 – 8.30pm) Take down Sat 12<sup>th</sup> 4.30pm  
Show 10th – 12th July; Member Plant Sales daily  
Reminder Sales Table closes 1 hour before Take Down
- **Winter Show: Scout & Guide Hall** Pilgrim Street, South Perth  
Set up Sat. 19th July (8.00 – 9.30am) – Judging 9.30 -11.30am  
Show 19th – 20th July; Member Plant Sales daily Take Down Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> at 4.00pm
- **Casserole Evening will be combined with the Plant Auction at the July General Meeting.** Members to bring a casserole or sweet to share. More details at the June General Meeting
- **Inter Society Challenge:** 2 – 3 August 2014 To be held at the Morley Sport & Recreation Centre, Wellington Road, Morley. Lots of orchids will be on display from many West Australian orchid clubs. Theme for the Challenge is "Silver Anniversary". Pre ordering of plants from Tinonee Orchids is available – see website for Tinonee orchids to see catalogue & download the Order Form.

- **Special for the Conference :** For all orders placed before the 14th July, Tinonee will deliver **FREIGHT & QUARANTINE FREE** for pick up at the Conference. Orders can be placed online and customers can choose "Deliver/Pickup" option for freight free mention "WA Conference" in the **Delivery Notes or Additional Comments** box. Orders by post, phone or fax also OK
- **OSWA Challenge entries:** Refer to schedule on Page 8. If you have suitable plants please contact Kaye.
- **Spring Show: Kardinya Shopping Centre** South Street, Kardinya  
Tues 2nd September, (6.00-7.30pm) Judging 7.30 – 9.30pm  
Show 3rd – 6th September; Member Plant Sales Thursday - Saturday
- **Perth Royal Show: Display at Claremont Showgrounds**  
Set up 26th September 11 am  
Show 27th September to 4th October. Takedown Sunday 5th October am
- **Potting Workshop: Scout & Guide Hall** Pilgrim Street, South Perth Sunday 19th October  
Workshop 10.00am until 4.00pm; Plants potted, sales, talks, display.

### MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION (May 2014)

#### OPEN:

Class 1A (5)	1. <i>Maxine Godbeer</i>	<i>L. cinnabarrina</i>
	2. Peter & Shirley Masters	<i>Soph. brevipedunculata</i>
	3. Peter & Shirley Masters	<i>L. praestaus</i>
Class 1B (2)	1. Peter & Shirley Masters	Blc. Crispin Rosales No.2
	2. Peter & Shirley Masters	Blc. Hawaiian Charm
Class 1C (1)	1. <i>Maxine Godbeer</i>	C. Narooma Wayside "Jean" x C. Mem Ellen Littman "Sunday Best"
Class 1F (1)	1. Courtney Rogasch	Blc. Love Sound "Dogashima" X C. Cherry Chip "Blumen Insel"
Class 3C (1)	1. Jim & Kaye Baylis	Paph Greyhound
Class 4A (1)	1. <i>Maxine Godbeer</i>	Den. <i>goldschmidtianum</i>
Class 4B (1)	1. Ian Duncan	Den. Maikhong
Class 4D (2)	1. <i>Maxine Godbeer</i>	Den. Unknown
	2. Ian Duncan	Den. Chela Color's FCA
Class 6D (1)	1. <i>Maxine Godbeer</i>	Degamoara Skywalker "Red Star"
Class 8A (1)	1. Ian Duncan	Den. <i>bigibbum</i> var. <i>superbum</i>
Class 8B (2)	1. Ian Duncan	Den. Hilda Poxon
	2. Ian Duncan	Den. Jonathon's Glory "Dark Joy" HCC/AOC
Class 10B (3)	1. <i>Maxine Godbeer</i>	Dendrochilum cobbianum
	2. <i>Maxine Godbeer</i>	Bulb. <i>dearei</i>
	3. <i>Maxine Godbeer</i>	Haraella <i>retrocalta</i>
Class 11B (1)	1. Jim & Kaye Baylis	Zygo. <i>mackayii</i>

#### NOVICE:

Class 16E (1)	1. Rod Pohl	<i>Cym. Katydid Veridan</i>
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#### Junior:

**Schokman Trophy:** Blc Mem Crispin Rosales 70 Points No. 2 Owner – Peter & Shirley Masters

#### POPULAR VOTE:

**OPEN:** Den. Maikhong Owner - Ian Duncan

**CYMBIDIUM CULTURAL NOTES (JUNE /JULY 2014) by Roy Brown**

This month 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 section, 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 leaves to rub on the flowers, 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 section like a glass house. This could be the reason for bud drop. Give them protection from the heavy winds and also close off the sides that face the strongest winds. Don't over crowd your plants, if possible give them plenty of room between each pot.

During July we can expect cold, wet wintry weather. Fertilising can be tapered off to once a fortnight. Watering will also depend on the weather, but don't allow the pots to become dry, particularly those in spike and under cover.

Keep the flowering house and shade houses well baited with slug and snail pellets, particularly now that the flower buds are showing.

**CATTLEYA CULTURAL NOTES (JUNE/JULY 2014) from notes of the late Henry Eaton**

With the onset of cold wintry weather, the foremost consideration is adjusting cultural practice to the cold. Orchid growth slows with the cold so the need for watering decreases and the use of fertilisers becomes a minor concern, unless your plants are being grown in a heated greenhouse. If your plants are grown in an open but covered area to protect them from the rain, all shading, if not already, should be removed. This helps to warm the plants to some degree on sunny days, and helps flowers opening now, to do so with true colours. Heavily shaded plants appear to open flowers with less brightness in them. Due to the cold and dampness in the air, flowers are more likely to get infected with botrytis spores with the appearance of black spots on the petals. This can be averted to some degree by keeping the air moving gently over the plants with the use of a fan, and avoiding crowding plants too close together. If the structure in which you grow your plants, permits using hangers, pots hung up give plants more space for flowers to open without obstruction and better air movement. Flowering plants should also be closely observed for caterpillars and thrips that will damage them if left untreated.

Also make sure you have baits spread around to neutralize the snails and slugs that appear with the rain. When watering, choose a forecasted sunny day to do so. This will allow the plants to dry out by nightfall and no water remains in the leaf axils, which could induce rot. It is also probably wise to wait until the sun is shining into your garden before watering, as by then the water in the pipes may have warmed up to some degree. Avoid all potting activities, unless not doing so might kill the plant

**PAPHIOPEDILUM CULTURAL NOTES (JUNE/JULY 2014) by Trevor Burnett**

With the cooler months upon us, watch you're watering just to keep the plants moist, but never leave them wet. Always water in the morning to ensure the plants are dry by nightfall. I, personally reduce my watering back further to once every 14 days, but may give additional watering if the weather is fine and sunny for 6-8 days in a row.

Hopefully, a good proportion of our plants will be showing flower spikes. Continue staking plants using wire, meat skewers or small thin bamboo stakes. This time of the year you start to enjoy the fruits of your previous 12 months work, with some of the early flowers now being fully developed and in full bloom. If you are missing out on a great display starting to appear, now is the time to review your culture over the last 12 months and make any necessary changes to ensure a great show next year.

The smaller, un-flowered plants will still require a fertilizer on a fortnightly or monthly basis, at ¼ to ½ strength, to keep the growth moving forward.

If you intend to get the plants ready for the various shows, this is the time to spend cleaning up the plants by removing any dead leaves and cleaning any dust from the leaves. Growers may use different methods to make their plant leaves look fresh and glistening, some by the use of white oil, but I personally believe a little common milk with water wiped over the leaves does a wonderful job without that oily look.

At this time of the year, most growers do not water plants overhead due to the possible marking of flowers for shows, and is sound practice if time permits. I do water overhead, but after watering I ensure the pouch is emptied of water and excess water is not left on the remainder of the plant. This can easily be achieved by gently tapping the flower.

**The Orchid Society of WA (Inc.)  
Minutes of the General Meeting to be held in the Collins Street Hall, South Perth,  
on 23 May 2014**

**Welcome:** The President Mrs K Baylis opened the meeting at 7:30 pm welcoming visitors & members.

**Apologies:** As per Register

**Minutes:** Moved M Brechin seconded R Pohl that the Minutes of the previous April meeting be accepted. **Carried.**

**Business arising:** Visit to OSWA visit to Floraplant has been booked for Saturday 23 August.

**Confirmation:** Moved M Brechin seconded R Pohl that the Business Arising has been resolved.

**Correspondence:**

- Received AOC President's newsletter
- Email exchange with Richard Dekkers (Floraplant) to arrange visit by OSWA for Sat. 23 August 2014
- Thank you email to David Gardiner for being our auditor for the last few years.
- From NDOS, info about Intersociety Challenge
- Cards to Ellen Dixon (for Tom) and Malcolm Davis (for repairing OSWA Emblem box)
- Invoice from Langley Fertilizers for Macracote fertiliser
- Thank you card from Ellen Dixon
- From RAS (SA) about Orchid Competition at Adelaide Royal Show, 5-14 September
- Revised constitution submitted to Minister for Consumer Affairs (WA)
- Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species books received from Mich Lee.
- Insurance Certificate of Currency received from LTM Risk Partners
- Email from Tony Watkinson about Peter and Shirley Masters' Auction (31 May)
- Email Exchange with Kelly Lane (Cottesloe Shopping Centre) re OSWA display for Wednesday 9 July - Saturday 12 July.
- Letters sent to referees for Lotteries Grant application
- Invoice sent to Riverton S/C for Autumn Show
- Responses to email enquiries from members of the public about where to obtain orchids, show and meeting dates, etc.
- Received: Society Bulletins and junk mail.

**Business arising:** Nil

**Confirmation:** Moved R McGrath seconded M Brechin that Correspondence be endorsed. **Carried.**

**Meeting item: Ian Duncan and Merril Brechin -- Dendrobaea Orchids**

- Merril spoke about how she grows Australian Native dendrobiums. Ian spoke about *Dendrobium bigibbum* and related phalaenanthae and intermediate orchids.

**Additional discussion:**

- A plant (*Dendrobium x superbiens?*) with fairly advanced keikis was brought in for discussion. It was emphasized that the correct time to remove and plant the keikis was when a new growth had new roots just starting to develop (which would probably be in spring).
- A cymbidium with badly rotting buds was also brought in for discussion. K Butler advised that the plant probably had a bacterial infection, which could be treated by removal of infected parts (using sterilised tools or the label to cut off leaves) and providing good air movement. The plant could also be sprayed with a copper-based spray, but such sprays should not be used too often due to the risk of copper toxicity.

**Tea Break and Popular Vote**

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

**Confirmation:** Moved R McCallum seconded R Pohl that the Financial Statement be received. Carried.

**New Members:** The Orchid Society welcomes Dr Robert J O Ndong'a to the Society.

**Reports:** I Duncan advised that a WAROO meeting was to be held soon and sought members opinions on whether WAROO conference funds should be used to pay hall hire for the Intersociety Challenge. There was general approval for this plan, with the proviso that the decisions at the WAROO meeting needed to be properly minuted and that the same arrangement apply for future Intersociety Challenges.

**General Business:**

- **Autumn Show:** The Show was very good, with plenty of helpers on duty. We needed more plants for the sales table and it was noted that plants sold for quite high prices. It was also noted that the sales table should be at the other end of the display so as not to obscure the view of the display. Prizes for the show were given to the owners of the winning plants.
- K Baylis asked members to think about whether they would prefer meetings to be on Sundays (1st or 3rd of month) in preference to Friday night.
- K Baylis also advised that we need a Registrar. Duties of the registrar are mainly collation of results of the monthly plant competition and attendance at one Registrars meeting per year. Anyone interested please see Kaye.
- R McCallum, H Reynolds, P Di Giovanni, and M Donald brought snacks for tonight's meeting and are to receive a free raffle ticket each at the June meeting.
- OSWA will put on a display at Cottesloe Shopping Centre. Set up evening of Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July, pack up afternoon of Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July. This will be a display only (not a show) but we need helpers and plants for the display and for the sales table to make the event a success and attractive for new members.
- R Pohl read an amusing tale written by Bob Longmore, discovered in the August 2000 bulletin during the shed cleanup.

**Raffle:** H Reynolds, E Burgess, S Lyster

**Popular Vote:** *Dendrobium* Maikhong (Owner: I Duncan)

**Door Prize:** M Brechin

**Meeting closed at 9:20 pm**

**Financial Statement:** Please refer to the Notice Board at General Meetings as this will be posted each month for your perusal prior to the meeting.

**AOC Magazine:** Members are encouraged to subscribe to this very informative publication – for further information go to the AOC website.

**Growing Australian Native Dendrobiums — Merril Brechin**

I started growing orchids about 25 years ago. I was given some cymbidiums by a man from Jandakot. So my collection, hobby, obsession or whatever one chooses to call it began!

Later, my interest in Australian Native Dendrobiums started with one *Dendrobium kingianum*. Soon like topsy it grew! Soon my shadehouse wasn't big enough to hold them. Don built me another house for the Dens. It is right out in the middle of my yard and has 50% shade cloth. It gets 8+ hours of sunlight daily. I never put extra shade on it — the plants won't flower as they should if I do.

I never achieved the flowering success that I wanted. BUT, a few years ago, my knee was bad and I was not able to fertilize, so in came Don: "I've fertilized your natives." My heart sunk! "What did you give them?" I said. "I had some blood and bone, you know, the pure stuff, so I gave some to each." I had heard blood and bone was not good for orchids. Oh well, I thought, we will have to see what happens. Well, next flowering season was one of my best to date! Now I give my plants blood and bone after flowering, usually October, at the rate of 1 teaspoon for small plants and 1 tablespoon for large and 2 tablespoons for my extra biggies. Then in May I give them another lot but with this I put potash with the blood and bone at a rate of 500 g potash to 5 kg blood and bone, mixed very well together. If you don't

use it all, make sure you put a lid on it. I give plants the same quantities as I mentioned above. The potash seems to encourage flowering, improves colour, quantity and quality.

If repotting is needed, usually after 2-3 years, I try to do it straight after flowering, definitely before it gets hot. I use a good quality bark and I usually put the blood and bone in the mix as I go. Be sure to label your plants as you go. Name on the front, date on the back, eg 514 = May 2014.

When I pot keikis, I usually tie 4-5 to a bamboo stake that is long enough to rest on the bottom of the pot. I then fill the pot two-thirds with bark, so the roots rest on top of the bark, then I cover the roots with a good quality potting mix. I find this gives much better results than bark only. In my comparison pots, the ones with potting mix did better, had much bigger, better-developed root systems than ones in bark only. The stake holds the plants firm until their roots can hold them, usually about 6 months. If the orchid is allowed to move around, when you water it can damage the tender root tips.

My benches are waist-high due to my bad back. This works for me, and the plants don't seem to mind it either. I hope this has helped those of you interested in Australian natives.

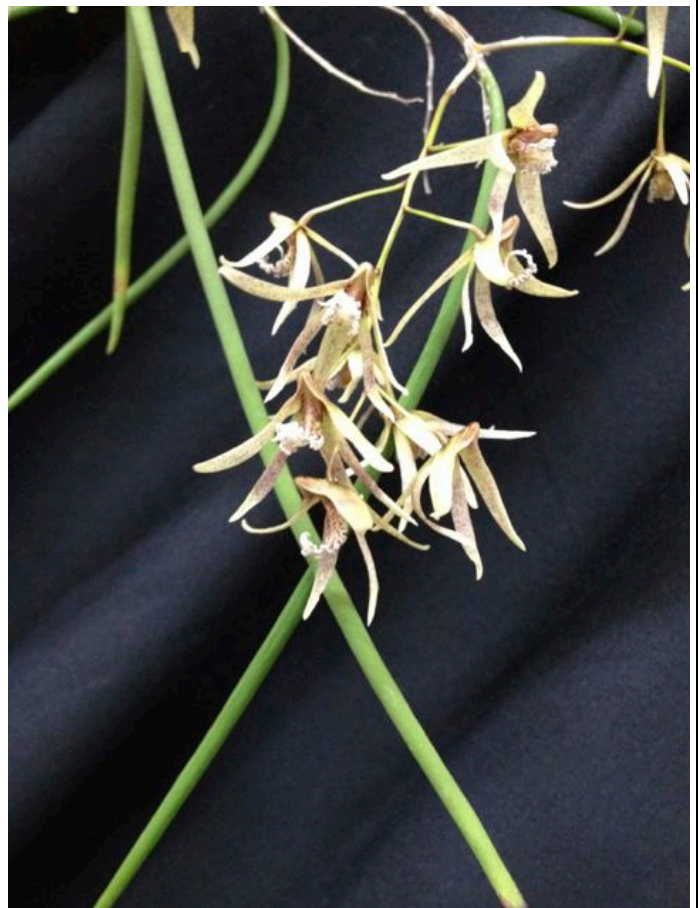
Members are welcome to visit Merrill to see how she grows her orchids. Phone (9337 9750) or email (merril.brechin@gmail.com) to arrange a visit.

### Some Australian Natives grown by OSWA members.



*Dendrobium Hilda Poxon*  
Grand Champion, Winter Show, 2012  
(Grown by Ian Duncan)

*Dendrobium teretifolium*  
Best Australian Native Species,  
Winter Show, 2012  
(Grown by Bob and Nancie Jones)



Growers with suitable plants for entry in any section please ring Kaye Baylis 9337 6210

## Standard Schedule for Inter-Society Challenges

Maximum of two entries in each class

Genera	Class	Description
Cymbidium	1	90mm & Over White/Ivory/Blush/Green/Yellow
	2	90mm & Over Pink/Red//Any other Colour
	3	Between 60-90mm White/Green/Yellow
	4	Between 60-90mm Any other colour
	5	Under 60mm White/Green/Yellow
	6	Under 60mm Any Other Colour
Dendrobium	7	Species (Excluding Australian Native)
	8	Hybrids (Excluding Australian Native)
Laeliinae Alliance	9	90mm & Over Any Colour
	10	60-90mm Any Colour
	11	Under 60mm Any Colour
Any Other Laeliinae	12	Species/Hybrid
Paphiopedilum	13	Any Species
	14	Standard Hybrid
	15	Non-Standard Hybrid
	16	Maudiae Type
	17	Multi-floral Hybrids only (Minimum 3 flowers)
Australian Native Epiphyte	18	Any Species
	19	Hybrid
Australian Native Terrestrial	20	Any Species or Hybrid
Phalaenopsis/Doritis	21	Any Species
	22	Hybrid
Oncidiinae	23	Any Species
	24	Hybrid
Vandaeae	25	Any Species or Hybrid
Any Other Than Above	26	Species
Any Other Than Above	27	Hybrid
Specimen	28	Any Species or Hybrid
Seedling	29	Any Seedling
Floral Art		Hosts Choice (Not part of competition)
Displays		Theme Hosts Choice (OJPWA Rules Apply)