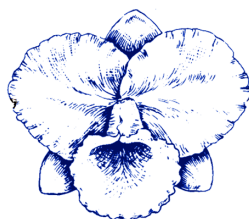


THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ORCHID BULLETIN

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

VOLUME 54 No 3



ISSUE DATE: MARCH 2014

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, 28 March, commencing at 8.00 p.m.

PATRON: Mr Trevor Burnett

PRESIDENT

Mrs Lorna Dodd

SECRETARY

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

TREASURER

Mr I. Duncan
Tel. 9364 5439

REGISTRAR

Mrs M. Godbeer
2195 Hidden Valley Rd
Parkerville 6081
Tel. 9295 5448

THIS MONTH'S MEETING ITEM:

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND
DISCUSSION OF BENCHED PLANTS

APRIL MEETING DATES:

Judging Panel 7:30 pm Monday 7th
OSWA Committee 7:30 pm Friday 4th
General Meeting 8:00 pm Friday 25th

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website: www.orchidsocietywa.net.au

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Birthdays:

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

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.

General News:

- **March General Meeting (and AGM):** Although we had a quorum for the business part of our February GM, one member left at the break and so we were inquorate for the AGM. Consequently, **the AGM will be included in the March General Meeting.** According to our existing constitution, if the second meeting also fails to achieve a quorum, those present shall be deemed to be a quorum, and the business of the meeting will proceed.
- **AGM:** please don't forget that the February General Meeting also includes the AGM. It is up to you all to elect the Office Bearers and Committee for the coming year, maybe even become one yourself.
- **A Home Open visit** is to be held at the home of Murray & Arni Baker – 58 Gladstone Rd Leeming, Ph. 9310 2800, on Sunday 30th March. A sausage sizzle is provided, please bring a salad or sweet to share, BYO drinks, chair & a little something for the raffle. Tea & coffee will be provided. Cost is \$5 per head. Any time from 11 am, come along & see how someone else grows their orchids, chat, & maybe see a solution to a problem that may work for you too.
- **Shed Cleanup Day** – This is to be held on Sunday 27th April at McDougall Park in Clydesdale St, Como at 10 am. This usually does not take too long so if you can help you will be welcome.
- **Membership subscriptions for 2014 are now well overdue.** If you have not paid your membership for 2014, please do so as soon as possible. \$26 for double, \$21 for single (and cheap at twice the price!) Either pay Ian Duncan in person at the next general meeting, or post a cheque made out to "the Orchid Society of WA Inc", to OSWA, 58 Gladstone Road Leeming 6149.
- **Postage prices have increased!** If you are receiving a copy of this Bulletin by mail but would be happy to receive it by email (and save the Society a few dollars a year), please let Murray know.

Show Dates for 2014:

Autumn Show: **Stocklands Riverton Shopping Centre** Cnr High Road & Willeri Drive
Set up Tues 6th May (6.00-7.30pm) Judging 7.30 – 9.30pm
Show 7th – 10th May; Member Plant Sales daily

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

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.

A COMPENDIUM OF MINIATURE ORCHID SPECIES (IN TWO VOLUMES)

We will be buying these two volumes for the club library. The set includes over 1800 photos covering over 500 species in 120 genera. Volume discounts are available, so if you would like to order a set for yourself (pricing from £34.99 per volume + shipping), let Murray know. More information about these books is available at: <http://www.redfernnaturalhistory.com/books/>

RESULTS OF MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION (February 2014)

OPEN

Class 1C (2)	1. J&B Rensen	Blc. Shyang Guv 'Linnet'
	2. J&B Rensen	Blc. Yen Corona 'Green Genius'
Class 4C (1)	1. I. Duncan	Den. Chela Color's FCA
Class 4D (2)	1. M. Godbeer	Den. Touch of Gold
	2. I. Duncan	Den. (Shavin White x <i>discolor</i>)
Class 5A (2)	1. J&B Rensen	<i>Phal. violacea</i> 'Red Face'
	2. M. Godbeer	<i>Phal. cornu-cervi</i> var. <i>flava</i>
Class 7B (1)	1. J&B Rensen	V. Panchong Blue
	2. J&B Rensen	Ascda. Mem. Sally Vilders x Ascda. Seang Udom
Class 10B(4)	1. M. Godbeer	<i>Bulb. dearei</i>

NOVICE: No entries.

POPULAR VOTE:

OPEN: Blc. Yen Corona 'Green Genius' – J&B Rensen

Schokman Trophy Points: Blc. Shyang Guv 'Linnet' (68 pts) – J&B Rensen

Jim Grantham Memorial Trophy Points: Phrag. Grande (74 pts) – M. Godbeer

CYMBIDIUM CULTURAL NOTES (MARCH/APRIL 2014) by Roy Brown

This is the time of the year when the young flower spikes are starting to develop, and so a drop in the temperature during the evening is a vital part of the successful flowering of Cymbidiums. Turning on the overhead sprinklers in the early evening will drop the temperature by quite a few degrees, creating the ideal conditions necessary for the growing and flowering of our plants.

Always have a good check of your pots regularly to make sure the drainage is not blocked. Water should pass through the compost freely, not just seep away.

Keep the regular fertilizer programme going, as the new season's growths need to be kept growing at a fast rate, so they will develop sufficiently to produce their flowers when the time comes.

If you should be poking about in your plants looking for these early flower spikes during March, do be very careful, they are very easily broken or damaged. Should you have to remove a plant that has definite signs of flower spikes showing, be very careful to replace it in the exact same position with the flower spike facing the same direction as before.

With the advent of flower spikes showing, it might be a good idea to give the shade house a general cleanup, getting rid of all dead leaves, weeds and anything else that might harbour pests. Now is the time to also check that you have a good supply of pots and compost ready for those repotting jobs next month.

CATTLEYA CULTURAL NOTES (MARCH/APRIL 2014) from notes of the late 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 fertilizing your plants will still follow a summer pattern, unless there is rain, when you can miss a watering if necessary. 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 that 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 any water retained around them could cause rotting. If water has collected dry it up with a tissue. While attending to your plants also stake the pseudo bulb bearing the buds or sheaths erect, so that when the flowers emerge they will be pointing towards you and not any which way.

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

PAPHIOPEDILUM CULTURAL NOTES (MARCH/APRIL 2014) by Trevor Burnett

Even though summer has officially finished, the summer pattern is still with us. We may still have some hot days over 34C to come, so we need to be mindful of this and adjust our watering accordingly. At this time of the year I water three times a week early in the morning with overhead sprinklers, so the plants are well saturated. This will allow time for the plant to dry out before the sun gets too high and will prevent any possibility of water burns. It will also ensure the plants are dry by nightfall

If excessive heat is forecast over consecutive days, you will need to watch plants in small pots and increase the watering as necessary. Watering is highly dependent on the composition of your potting mix and its ability to retain moisture. For beginners, a test pot of just potting mix in the growing area is recommended, until you understand the water holding capacity of your mix. You can empty the pot at any stage to see what water is retained.

As the plants are still in active growth, keep a weak fertilizer programme going at $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ strength, on a weekly or fortnightly basis depending on your time restraints. Ensure that you flush the mix with water between fertilizing.

In the glasshouse, the use of misting sprays under the benches will be beneficial by increasing the humidity levels on very hot days. It is equally important that plenty of fresh air, which is essential for the plants' health, is available in the glasshouse.

At this time of the year the paphiopedilum will have some leaves that have died over the summer months and these should be removed in preparation for the forthcoming flowering season, to prevent any unwanted vermin having an ideal hiding place.

I would repot any small plants that are not expected to flower during this period, to ensure they have a nice clean mix before going into winter.

The Orchid Society of WA (Inc.)

Minutes of the General Meeting to be held in the Collins Street Hall, South Perth, on 28 February 2014

Welcome: The President Mrs L Dodd opened the meeting at 8.05 pm welcoming visitors & members.

Apologies: As per Register

Minutes: Moved B Rensen seconded J Rensen that the Minutes of the previous meeting be accepted. Carried. **Business arising:** Nil.

Correspondence:

- Form Judging panel, invoice for judging fees for 2014
- From WAROO, affiliation fees for 2014
- From Bunnings, Bibra Lake: info about how Bunnings can support and help promote not-for-profit community groups
- From Dirk Soet, requesting someone to talk to an elderly group on last Friday of a month at 10 am in Bull Creek
- From Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society of South Australia, advising of the Orchid Competition at the 2014 Royal Adelaide Show (\$500 for Grand Champion) (in August)
- OSNSW, requesting support for their bid for World Orchid Conference in 2020
- Card to Carmel Sullivan (thank you for donation to OSWA).
- Vanessa Westcott (Regional Ecologist at Bush Heritage) requesting volunteers for survey of endangered orchids at Eurardy Reserve (near Geraldton) in August. Accommodation for volunteers + communal kitchen.
- Margaret King (City of South Perth) re free conference for community groups about governance issues, planning, promotion of clubs.
- Stewart McPherson, to promote his book "A compendium of miniature Orchid Species" (two volumes, ~1200 pages, ~1800 photos; £35-40) and orchid tours to Venezuela.
- Francis Greenshaw, requesting public comment on a Australian Govt document about Australia's threatened orchids (by 31 March).
- Jim Shaughnessy (AOC President), President's Newsletter (appeared in January Bulletin)
- Email exchange with Kelly Lane to arrange a show at Cottesloe S/C (failed).
- Bills for AOC, AOS subscriptions, and trailer registration.
- From Sven Littkowski (Jamaica) seeking exchange of orchid seeds (not feasible: quarantine)
- Responses to general email enquiries from members of the public.
- Received: Society Bulletins and junk mail.

Business arising: Nil **Confirmation:** Moved R Pohl seconded H Reynolds that Correspondence be endorsed. Carried.

Financial Statement: I Duncan presented the Financial Statement. It was noted that payment for the 2013 Autumn Show was received on 7/2/14.

Confirmation: Moved J Baylis seconded R McGrath that the Financial Statement be received. Carried.

New Members: Nil **Reports:** Nil

General Business:

- Request from elderly lady in Wembley seeking assistance to repot a prized Phalaenopsis. Willing to pay. Volunteer sought.
- OSWA Constitution needs to be ratified again (apologies from M Baker). For April GM.
- I Duncan explained some changes to the Show Schedules to be used this year.

Popular Vote: Brassolaeliocattleya Yen Corona 'Green Genius' (now Rhyncholaeliocattleya, not Blc), owners J & B Rensen.

Raffle: R McGrath, M Olley, J Baylis, H Reynolds. (Thank you to Rod Pohl for kindly donating an extra raffle plant (a large Miltona). **Door Prize:** C Sloan.

The meeting was adjourned for the AGM at 8.50 pm and reconvened at 8:55 pm

- Mrs L Dodd noted that the AGM could not proceed due to lack of quorum and that it would be postponed until the March GM.

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm, followed by Wine and Cheese.

Membership Drive Stockpile Process.

In any given year our club loses some members for all sorts of different reasons. Many of which are beyond our control. We therefore need to be constantly looking to recruit new members, to at least keep pace with the rate of attrition.

The membership drive stockpile process has been an effective tool in helping to attract new members to an orchid club. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the process, it works like this:

Members who wish to participate, donate plants to a stockpile which is then used to offer new members free plants with the first year of membership to our club. For existing members, it is not mandatory that you have to donate to the stockpile. However those who wish too, are encouraged to do so. In the long term it works better if lots of people donate a few plants each, rather than a few people having to donate lots of plants each.

Donated plants don't have to be champions or potential champions. They simply need to be healthy orchids, free of Virus or rot problems. Flowering size or near flowering size (in other words likely to flower this season or next season) So that the new grower has a chance to get involved with the show bench process, sooner rather than later.

Persuading new members to join our club is one thing. Getting them involved with the show bench process as quickly as possible, is what is most likely to encourage them to become long term regular participants at our meetings and shows.

The stockpile is a great place to get rid of those dreaded plant divisions that just keep taking up more and more of your valuable growing area.

There will be several opportunities each year at our events and shows to engage the public and hopefully convince some of them to come and join our club. With the stockpile in operation, I'm sure they will be able to see the excellent value that membership to our club offers.

The Membership Drive Stockpile Process is part of a wider integrated recruitment process that has proven to have benefits for both the new grower/s and existing members and growers.

Anyone who has any questions on this, or anyone who would like to donate to the stockpile please contact me. I will be doing a question and answer session to explain this process in detail at one of our up coming meetings.

Courtney.