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, 23 May 2014, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

PATRON: Mr. Trevor Burnett

THIS MONTH'S MEETING ITEM:

DENDROBEAE

IAN DUNCAN & MERRIL BRECHIN

PRESIDENT

Mrs Kaye Baylis Tel. 9337 6210

SECRETARY

Mr M. Baker Tel. 9310 2800

TREASURER

Mr I. Duncan Tel. 9364 5439

REGISTRAR

Mrs M. Godbeer Tel. 9295 5448

BULLETIN EDITOR

Mrs R. McGrath Tel. 9367 9306

58 Gladstone Rd Leeming 6149

Judging Panel July 7th

JUNE MEETING DATES:

7:30 pm Fri 7th June OSWA Committee 7:30 pm Fri 28th June General Meeting

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website: www.orchidsocietywa.net.au

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MINUTES

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Birthdays:

May: 7th Dorothy Walton, 9th Ellen Dixon

June: 2nd Tom Seaman, 9th Fred Herbert, Edna Burgess, 17th Maggie Longmore, Liu Shea Pohl

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

Vale: Thomas (Tom) Dixon 14th April 2014

A very dedicated hard working Life Member of OSWA. Tom was always willing to share his valued knowledge of orchids and made time, even though he wasn't well, to offer his services to help others at Shows, Displays and Workshops. Tom was an asset to any society that he was associated with. At OSWA he readily volunteered to take on the roles as Committee Member, Librarian and scribe for the Judges at Monthly Meetings. Tom will be sadly missed by his family, friends and all who knew him in the orchid fraternity. Your passing Tom is our loss and Heaven's gain. Our love and prayers are with Ellen and your family. Until we meet again.

New Members:

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:

- Please note that General Meetings will commence at 7.30pm on the 4th Friday of each month, commencing at our May 23rd Meeting.
- An Auction of hybrid Phalaenopsis, many with flower spikes initiated will be held at Peter and Shirley Masters' home at 110 Crawford Street, East Cannington on Saturday, 31 May at 10.00 am. Peter and Shirley have approximately 1000 plants to sell as they are downsizing their collection. Most plants have been repotted. Plants will be sold in lots of 5-10 plants of differing sizes, and will be in mixed and single colour lots. A listing of the plants included in the sale will be posted on Peters website www.peterskorner.com and distributed to other societies please let your friends know about this. All sales will be cash, and bidders can register on the day. Please bring your own containers to carry your purchases.
- **Autumn Show:** Many thanks to all who provided plants for Entry & Display at Stocklands Riverton. The Show looked beautiful & we had many enquiries. The Sales Table was kept reasonably busy but we could have sold many more plants especially if they were in flower.
- 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:

- 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
- 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. More details to be included in the next Bulletin.

- 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 (March 2014) OPEN:

Class 1A (2)	 Murray & Arni Baker Maxine Godbeer 	Enc. <i>radiata</i> C. <i>trianae</i>
Class 1B (3)	1. lan Duncan	Blc. California Girl "Orchid Library"
	2. Peter & Shirley Masters	Blc. Crispin Rosales No.2
	Murray & Arni Baker	C. Unknown
Class 4B (1)		ova Storm x D. (Nora Valmabre x Virtual Magic)
Class 5A (1)	Maxine Godbeer	Phal. fasciata
Class 6A (2)	1. Peter & Shirley Masters	Onc. Hypaematica
	2. Peter & Shirley Masters	Milt. clowesii
Class 6B (2)	 Murray & Arni Baker 	Onc. Sweet Sugar
	2. Peter & Shirley Masters	Onc. Golden harvest x River of Gold
Class 6D (1)	1. Peter & Shirley Masters	Brsdm. Pagan Love Song "Ruby Charles"
Class 7A (1)	Maxine Godbeer	Acrides lawrenciae
Class 7B (1)	1. Murray & Arni Baker	Mokara Tangerine x Ascacenda Duang
Class 8A (1)	1. Murray & Arni Baker	Den. <i>bigibbum</i>
	2. Ian Duncan	Den. <i>bigibbum</i>
Class 8B (1)	1. Murray & Arni Baker	Dendrobium x superbiens
Class 10B (3)	1. Maxine Godbeer	Coelogyne <i>ovalis</i>
	2. Maxine Godbeer	Bulb. annandalei
	3. Maxine Godbeer	Haraella retrocalta
Class 11B (1)	1. Murray & Arni Baker	Zygo. Syd Monkhouse
Novice:		
Class 15B (3)	1. Merrilyn Brechin	C. Intermedia var. Orlate "Riox" x Intermedia
	2. Merrilyn Brechin	C. Crispin Rosales "Sandy Spearman"
Olaca 455 (4)	3. Malcolm & Ann Davis	C. Unknown
Class 15E (1)	1. Val Cooper	C. Portiata "Mel"
Class 15F (1)	Rod Pohl Malcolm & Ann Davis	C. bowringiana
Class 20D (1)		Splendid Bow Miltonia Unknown
Class 20D (1)	1. Rod Pohl	
Class 22A (1)	1 1. Rod Pohl	Den. bigibbum x self
Class 25A (1)	I. NOU FUIII	Phrag. Caudatum x sib

Junior:

POPULAR VOTE

OPEN:Blc. California Girl "Orchid Library"Ian DuncanNOVICE:C. Portiata "Mel"Val Cooper

RESULTS OF THE AUTUMN SHOW AT STOCKLANDS RIVERTON

Champion Laeliinae Alliance: Blc. Kabooki owner Merrilyn Brechin Best Paphiopedilum: Paph. Greyhound owner Jim & Kaye Baylis

Best Dendrobeae(exc. Aust Nat.): Den. Dal's Treasure x Den. Asternova Storm owner lan Duncan

Best Australian Native: Den. bigibbum var. superbium owner lan Duncan

Best Oncidinae: Onc. Saint Dawn Gold owner lan Duncan

Best Vandeae: Mokara Tangerine x Asc. Daung Porn owner Murray & Arni Baker

Best Phalaenopsis: Phal. fasciata owner Maxine Godbeer
Best Any Other Genera: Haraella retrocalla owner Maxine Godbeer

Grand Champion: Den. Dal's Treasure x Den. Asternova Storm owner lan Duncan

Reserve Champion: Den. bigibbum var. superbium owner lan Duncan Den. bigibbum var. superbium owner lan Duncan

Best Seedling: Den. bigibbum x same x (Princess Polly x Sarah Jane) owner Sharon Lyster

Best Novice Entry: Den. Unknown owner Merrilyn Brechin AOC Most Pre Eminent Entry: Den. bigibbum owner lan Duncan

CYMBIDIUM CULTURAL NOTES (MAY/JUNE 2014) by Roy Brown

During May some of the early flowering Cymbidiums will be in flower. Others will have flower buds showing through the protective sheaths on the stem. Once they reach the stage where 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 them. Heavy rain or hail can chip the soft buds and leave a permanent mark. Also strong winds can cause the 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 bud drop. Give them overhead protection from the heavy rain and also close off the sides that 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 depend on the weather but don't let the pots become dry, particularly those in spike, and those under cover. Keep the shade house and flowering house well baited with Baysol pellets for slugs and snails, particularly now that flower buds are showing.

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

Autumn weather has at last been established with cool nights and warm days. This has meant that plants that flower in the autumn have begun to do so with plenty of blooms. 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 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 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 then 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 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 light and warmth.

To protect the flowers from spotting with Botrytis, try and maintain a good flow of air around the plants by hanging them up or having a fan blowing gently over them. The flowers also need protection from snails and slugs by placing baits in the pots 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 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 of the bud at the base of the pseudo bulb.

PAPHIOPEDILUM CULTURAL NOTES (MAY/JUNE 2014) by Trevor Burnett

Similar growing conditions as last month and as the conditions cool, reduced watering will be necessary. I personally, reduce my watering further to once every 10 days, but am always mindful that we could still

get some of those unexpected hot days, when watering may have 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. 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's growth will have started to slow considerably on the flowering plants, as all the effort is now being channeled into supporting the flowers. Fertiliser programmes, need to be adjusted to a 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 a fertilizer at 1/4 to 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 to help protect your eyes from getting poked when working with the 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 during the winter (as I do), keep the plants drier than usual as wet, cold conditions are often fatal to roots.

The Orchid Society of WA (Inc.) Minutes of the General Meeting to be held in the Collins Street Hall, South Perth, on 25 April 2014

Welcome: The President Mrs K Baylis opened the meeting at 8.00 pm welcoming visitors & members.

Minutes' Silence for Tom Dixon

Apologies: As per Register

Vote on Constitution: Members were asked to vote on the changes proposed for the OSWA constitution and circulated to members in February/March 2014. The changes had been passed at a previous meeting (May 2013) but had to be reconsidered due to the approved changes not being lodged with the relevant government authority within 30 days. In favour of changes: 25. Oppose changes: 0. Changes approved.

Meeting Item: Preparing Plants for Shows

- R McGrath outlined the process for entry of plants in shows, including changes to the show schedule.
- M Baker showed briefly how some neglected plants could be tidied up by trimming dead
 foliage and old leaf sheaths, and emphasized importance of sterilizing cutting tools. There
 was some discussion about removing pests such as scale and mealy bug from plants.
- M Godbeer discussed how to prepare plants for shows so that they look their best, and highlighted the importance of staking of racemes.

Tea Break and Popular Vote

Minutes: Moved V Cooper seconded J Walton that the Minutes of the previous meeting be accepted. Carried.

Business arising: Nil.

Correspondence:

• Email exchange with Richard Dekkers (Floraplant) to arrange visit by OSWA (members prefer 16 or 23 August 2014)

- Email from Mackay Districts Orchid Society about 2015 AOC Conference
- Email exchange with Mich Lee re order of Miniature Orchid Species books (arrived, one set for OSWA, \$111).
- Advice from Garden Clubs about insurance
- Email from OSNSW re their bid for 2020 WOC
- 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 M Brechin seconded R McGrath that Correspondence be endorsed. Carried.

Financial Statement: I Duncan presented the Financial Statement.

Confirmation: Moved T Seaman seconded J Baylis that the Financial Statement be received. Carried.

New Members: Nil

Reports: Nil

General Business:

- K Baylis thanked M & A Baker for their home visit last month.
- After brief discussion it was agreed to trial starting General Meetings at 7:30 pm, beginning with the May GM.
- K Baylis thanked A Baker and B Burnett for supplying scones and cake for tonight's meeting.
 Members were encouraged to bring a plate of finger food to share at General Meetings. As a
 small incentive, anyone bringing a plate to share gets a free raffle ticket. M Perry to cater for
 the May GM
- Shed Clean-up in 27 April (details in the April Bulletin)

Raffle: P Di Giovanni. M MacDonald

Popular Vote:

Open: Brassolaeliacattleya California Girl 'Orchid Library', owner I Duncan.

Novice: Cattleya Portiata 'Mel', owner V Cooper.

Door Prize: A Davis

Meeting closed at 9:35 pm