



**Birthdays: October:** 5<sup>th</sup> Nathan Carless, 16<sup>th</sup> Barbara Burnett

**November:** 10<sup>th</sup> George Price, 18<sup>th</sup> Trevor Burnett

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.

Sincere sympathy to Ian Sutton & Kirsty Bayliss on the sudden loss of Ian's mother on the 4<sup>th</sup> October.

Our thoughts are with you at this sad time.

### General News:

- **Potting Workshop: Manning Activity Centre (Manning Senior Citizens Centre), 3 Downey Drive Manning** Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October. Workshop 10.00am until 4.00pm; Plants potted, sales, talks, display. Speakers & helpers needed.
- **October Meeting:** This will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> Friday as normal (**23<sup>rd</sup> October**) Please note that we all have to pay a \$1.00 to the Manning Senior Citizens as they provide tea, coffee & biscuits
- **Orchid Auction:** Bring along any orchids which you wish to sell. A reserve price can be placed on orchids, but please list the reserve on a sheet of orchid names, only if you require a reserve, otherwise all money raised will go to OSWA. This is always a fun night so please support it. It won't be a casserole evening as it is too close to the Christmas Dinner Night but if you would like to bring something extra for supper it will be very much appreciated.
- **Neutrog Products Collection:** Ordered products will be delivered to 2 Morrish Place, Como & can be collected from there on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October from 11.00am – 2.00pm (Potting Workshop Day) or contact Rosemary for a suitable time after 18<sup>th</sup> October.
- **Perth Royal Show:** Display at Claremont Showgrounds 26<sup>th</sup> September to 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Thanks to all who provided plants & worked at the Show manning the Display, a photograph of which was on our Facebook page thanks to Kirsty. This year was a much larger area & we did have a small problem with the wind & afternoon sun, but we should be able to remedy that next year. The public as soon as they entered the hall said "Wow Look at the orchids!"
- **Trophies:** Could members who are holding the trophies please return them by the October General Meeting, as they need to be engraved during November, before our Christmas Meeting and presentation night. If you wish to polish them please use Silvo. Thanks to those who have already returned them.
- **Bob Jones' Orchids:** These have all been sold. Thanks to those members who did purchase them.
- **Christmas Meeting** will be on the 2nd Friday, 11th December at 7.30pm. Presentation of trophies and Christmas Festivities. Members to bring a plate of finger food to share. Drinks are supplied by OSWA.
- **General Meeting Opportunity Table:** This table is set up at all our monthly meetings. Please bring anything you would like to donate, i.e. any orchids, other plants, products from your pantry, articles you no longer need, books, magazines, fruit & vegetables. All donated items will be greatly appreciated. If there is anything you wish to take from the table, remember to put a small donation in the box provided. This table is separate from the usual OSWA table where fertilizers, plants, hangers, tags, books, etc. are sold at set prices.
- **Annual Christmas Dinner** Saturday 5 December 2015 at RAAF Bull Creek.

### 2015 / 2016 CALENDER of SHOW EVENTS: All dates are confirmed

- **Potting Workshop:** Manning Activity Centre, Downey Drive Manning Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2015
- **January 2016 BBQ & Social Night:** Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> at Malcolm & Ann Davis' home more details in future Bulletins
- **Annual Christmas Dinner:** RAAF 5<sup>th</sup> December
- 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016 **OSWA Anniversary** –keep these dates free

**MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION (September 2015)****(Please ensure all names are clearly printed so we can record the plant names correctly)****OPEN:**

1 B (1) 1. Rosemary McGrath Rlc. Sakurayama "First Prize" AM/OIOS

**NOVICE:**

15B (2) 1. Gloria Talbot Blc Lyn Spencer "Cha"  
 2. Valerie Cooper Blc. Madame Edith Bongo

15F (1) 1. Chris Sloan Cat. Chit Chat

16C (1) 1. Chris Sloan Cym. Unknown

22A (1) 1. Valerie Cooper Den. speciosum

22B (5) 1. Mal & Ann Davis Den. gracillimum x Den. Star of Gold "Bathurst"  
 2. Mal & Ann Davis Den. Bardo Rose  
 3. Mal & Ann Davis Den. Unknown

**JUNIOR:**

13B (1) 1. Dana Mitchell Cym. San Francisco "Mona Lisa"

**POPULAR VOTE:**

Open Rosemary McGrath Rlc. Sakurayama "First Prize" AM/OIOS  
 Novice. Valerie Cooper Blc. Madame Edith Bongo

**SCHOKMAN TROPHY:** Rosemary McGrath Rlc. Sakurayama "First Prize" AM/OIOS 74 points.**JIM GRANTHAM MEMORIAL TROPHY:****RICHARD NICHOLS TROPHY:****CYMBIDIUM CULTURAL NOTES (OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2015) by Roy Brown**

Repotting should be in full swing, but by the middle of November the temperature will be fairly high, so it would be advisable to have all the repotting done by the first week of November at the latest. When dividing your plants, try not to break them up into sections that are too small. A three bulb piece will have a better chance of flowering the following year. Try not to overpot your plant. Select a pot that will hold the plant and its root system and will allow for a further two years growth.

When repotting, hold the plant firmly in one hand one inch below the top of the pot, then using your fingers work the fresh pine bark between the plants roots. Fill the pot to about ½ inch from the rim, firming the bark in as you go. The plant should now be sitting neatly in the centre of the pot, with the base of the bulb just below the top of the bark.

Give the plant a good watering and place it in a cool, shady position for about a week, until the roots start into active growth again.

When the flower spikes have been cut and the plant repotted, you will find the new season's leads will shoot ahead. Keep them growing strongly by increasing the fertilizing to weekly or fortnightly intervals. In the growing season, Cymbidiums love plenty of light, water and a regular feeding programme.

**CATTLEYA CULTURAL NOTES (OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2015) from notes of the late Henry Eaton**

Now that the shows are over for this year, we will be getting into the season for assessing the needs of our plants to be repotted or potted on. This is the start of the growing season and getting the plants off to a good start will result in better flowering next year.

Plants that will need to be considered for potting will be:

- a) seedlings that have been more than six months in the pot
- b) plants where the front growth is over the edge of the pot, or where the next growth will take it
- c) plants showing signs of being unhappy in their current mix
- d) plants that need breaking up because of their large size.

When to pot can be largely influenced by the appearance of new roots. When new roots appear, you can be sure they will establish in new mix quite readily. Do not allow new roots to grow more than 2-3 cms long before potting as longer roots are more likely to get broken in the process of potting.

When potting, choose a pot size one step up from the pot you had used till then, e.g from a 125mm to a 150mm pot. The mix you use should fit in with your schedule for having time to water your plants. The coarser the mix, the more frequent the watering will have to be.

At the time of potting place the oldest pseudo bulb against the back wall of the pot and fill in with mix from the front. Push the mix in so that the plant is held firm in the pot. If adequately immobilised, you can usually lift the plant up by its leaves without the plant coming away from the pot. Stake the pseudo bulbs up vertically as far as possible and make sure the front growth cannot move around damaging the emerging new roots.

Place the repotted plant in a shady spot in your growing area for a couple of weeks to counter the shock of replanting. Something like a seaweed solution watered through would also help counter shock. If there is a need to divide a plant, make sure you use a sterilised cutting instrument and do not make a division smaller than 3-4 healthy bulbs.

### **PAPHIOPEDILUM CULTURAL NOTES (OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2015) by Trevor Burnett**

This month is about getting our newly potted plants into full growth as the growths will need to mature in order to produce flowers next year. With the warmer weather, the fertilizer programme can be increased to weekly or fortnightly at  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  strength, with a high nitrogen based fertilizer to promote good development of the new growths.

In our repotting process we usually end up with plants being repotted into larger pots or divided into several pieces, so be very mindful not to cram your plants together like sardines. They still need space between plants for good air movement. If we cram plants together, we provide a wonderful place for all sorts of bugs to hide and also restricts the airflow around plants. Good air movement around the plants is essential for good healthy plants and greatly reduces the problems of disease.

In respect to watering, we must ensure that our plants do not become completely dry, as we have a nice new mix which for the first couple of months will tend to dry out quicker than the old mix we have just replaced. At this time of the year I would water at 7 day intervals, unless the temperature goes above 32 °C for three consecutive days, then I would bring back my watering to 4 days.

It is also an ideal time to see if that plant you admired from one of the growers, has been divided and a piece may be available to purchase. Remember this is the ideal time to reflect on your cultural success and sharing your growing success with friends and club members Good luck and good growing for the summer months ahead.

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

#### **Minutes of the General Meeting held at the Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning, on 18 September 2015**

**Welcome:** Mr Malcolm Davis (Vice President) opened the meeting at 7.35pm, welcoming visitors- N George, L Pacca, H Reynolds, C Cabassi & members as per register.

**Apologies:** As per register.

**Meeting Item:** Deflasking Cattleya Orchids, presented by John Walton and Kirsty Bayliss

Thanks to John & Kirsty your presentation was exceptional

**Break for tea and popular vote.**

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

**Business arising:** Nil.

**Confirmation:** Moved V Cooper, seconded G Talbot that the business arising has been resolved.  
**Carried**

**Correspondence:**

- Advice of payment by Kardinya Park S/C for Kardinya Show
- Invitation participate in Vice-Regal Service for The Queen at St George's Cathedral (*declined*)
- Email from Michelle Aldam inviting OSWA to Karragullen Expo (*declined, clash with Royal Show*)
- Phone conversation with Brian Klepzig re SEOS purchasing Neutrog products on OSWA's bulk orders. This order has closed, maybe next year. Arrangement for Order pick up from 2 Morrish Place Como on 18<sup>th</sup> October
- Email from Orchidup announcing another open day at the Nursery
- Responses to general email enquiries from members of the public.
- Received: Society Bulletins and junk mail.

**Business arising:** Neutrog orders have to be finalised at this meeting so that the final order can be sent on 21<sup>st</sup> Sept Arrangement for Order pick up from 2 Morrish Place Como on 18<sup>th</sup> October Phone Rosemary 0401508667

**Confirmation:** Moved G Talbot, seconded V Cooper that Correspondence be endorsed. **Carried.**

**Financial Statement:** prepared by I Duncan

**Confirmation:** Moved R Pohl, seconded E Burgess, that the Financial Statement and Accounts for Payment endorsed. **Carried.**

**New Members:** G Esmond (Willetton) was welcomed into the Society

**Reports:**

- Tropical Colours visit was enjoyed by all who attended & members look forward to the next visit.
- Kardinya Show: Thanks to all those who helped or entered plants. Prize Money was distributed Congratulations to all winners

**General Business:**

- 2016 subs now due \$21.00 per single, \$26.00 per double to be paid by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2015
- Royal Show: Set up Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Sept from 11.00am. Thanks to all those who offered to man the Show Tickets are available from Rosemary. Plants are needed to make a spectacular display
- Trophies need to be returned by the October Meeting. Please polish silver trophies only with Silvo
- Members were asked to keep Sunday 11/9/16 clear, for OSWA's 70th anniversary celebrations. There is also a possibility that there will be a Dinner on the Saturday Night 10/9/16

**Raffle:** E73 Valerie Cooper, A07 Chris Sloan, E64 Neil George

**Popular Vote:**

**Open:** Rlc. Sakurayama "First Prize" owner Rosemary McGrath

**Novice:** Blc. Madame Edith Bongo owner Valerie Cooper

**Meeting Closed** at 8.55pm

### **A brief introduction to growing plants in flasks by Kirsty Bayliss.**

In a research or commercial laboratory growing plants in flasks is known as tissue culture, or in vitro culture. In vitro is Latin for "in glass" although these days plastic is more popular.

Almost any plant species can be grown in tissue culture, once the conditions for growth are known. This can take a bit of trial and error as we need to know the optimum nutrient, light and temperature requirements.

We can grow plants in tissue culture from almost any part of an existing plant, including leaves, stems, roots, flowers, embryos, and even individual cells, and this is often referred to as meristem culture or cloning (sometimes mericlones). Hormones are generally applied to induce shoots or roots, or both. For orchids, seeds are most commonly grown in tissue culture, but some species can also be cloned.

The most important thing to know is that when plants are grown in tissue culture they are in a very protected and sterile environment. When we deflask, we therefore need to protect the young plants, ideally keeping them in very similar light and temperature conditions, so that they can transition to their new environment easily. Once over the shock of deflasking they should perform the same as any other plant in your collection.

**Deflasking (John Walton)** John demonstrated his method for deflasking using a glass flask of hybrid Cattleyas.- Rhyncat. Chomthong Fancy x (Chia Lin x Suriyan Sunset)

He wrapped the flask in newspaper and used a hammer to break the glass. Next, he removed all of the agar from the seedlings (to prevent fungal growth) and soaked the seedlings briefly in a solution of Fongarid (fungicide) and Powerfeed (fertilizer).

The potting mix was 50:50 Perlite:small bark. John prepares his bark for use by soaking the contents of a 50L bag in a 60L bin full of water and two bottles of lime juice (not cordial) for a week, then in a dilute solution of Ionic (fertilizer), Polyfeed etc.

To pot a seedling, John put a bit of potting mix in a 2" pot, then held the seedling in the pot and filled the pot with more potting mix to cover the roots, pressing down only gently to avoid damaging the roots. He typically fertilises freshly potted seedlings with Ionic or Polyfeed grow, every day for a week. Fertilisers containing calcium are best at this stage.

After a week, the seedlings go into John's normal watering regime.

As time was limited, the second Flask – Rhyno. Willette Wong (Yen Twenty Four Carat x Rhyno. Samui Magic), John took home & they will be available one per membership at the October meeting.



OSWA's display at the 2015 Perth Royal Show