The Western Australian Orchid Bulletin

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VOLUME 56 NO 7



JULY 2016

NEXT MEETING of the Orchid Society of Western Australia (Inc.) will be held at the Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning, on Friday 22 July, 2016, commencing at 7:30 pm.

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THIS MONTH'S MEETING ITEM:

FROM SEEDPOD TO FLASK

TREVOR BURNETT

AUGUST MEETING DATES:

OSWA Committee 7:30 pm Friday 12th (second Friday)

General Meeting 7:30 pm Friday 26th

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http://www.orchidsocietywa.net.au

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Birthdays

July: 1st Kevin Butler, 15th Dana Mitchell, 16th Maureen Grantham, 18th Roy Brown August: 19th Judith Keogh 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.

August Committee Meeting Due to the Inter Society Display & Workshop the Committee Meeting will now be the 12th August

New Members

Welcome to Angela Measday (Seville Grove), Kevin and Anne Ewing (Salter Point), and Ann Lam (Waterford). We hope you have many rewarding years ahead with our Society.

Plant Sales at General Meetings

Anyone selling plants at general meetings must fill in plant sales slips and attach them to the plants so that the staff at the Sales Table know who the plants belong to. Also, please note that the Sales Table will only be operating during the supper break.

Inter-Society Workshop and Display (Bunbury, 6-7 August 2016)

- The Inter-Society Workshop and Display will be the biggest orchid event in Western Australia this year, and an oportunity to meet growers from different regions of the state.
- We are putting on a display, so we are going to need plenty of plants. Even if you are not able to attend the event in Bunbury, if you have plants in flower, OSWA can put them to good use, and can arrange for other members to transport them to and from Bunbury. See the July bulletin for details about drop-off points for plants.
- The Workshop Dinner (see page 6 of the June bulletin the menu) will be held at the Bunbury RSL Club on the evening of Saturday 6 August. Cost: \$50. These dinners are always very enjoyable. If you plan to attend but have not booked a place yet, it is not too late, but you must contact Lyn Harwood of Bunbury Orchid Society directly: lynbri@westnet.com.au

Winter Show

Thank you to all who entered plants in the show and helped with setting up, packing up, and looking after things during the day. The show was a great success. Congratulations to the winners.

Tropical Colours Nursery Visit

Saturday 13th August, arriving at Tropical Colours around 10 am. We have hired the South Perth Community Bus for the trip — 17 seats available. Pick up at Manning Senior Citizens Centre at 9.30 am.

Wanted: Vanilla planifolia

Bob Longmore is looking for a cutting or plant of *Vanilla planifolia* to try to grow in Nannup. If you have a plant or a piece to spare, please contact Rosemary McGrath, or Bob at longmore@westnet.com.au.

Royal Show

Unfortunately OSWA will not be putting on a display at the Perth Royal Show this year. Rather than having the orchid display in the usual hall with the district displays, this year the Show organisers required the orchid display to be held in a marquee, which is not suitable for display of orchids over an extended period.

CYMBIDIUM CULTURAL NOTES (JULY/AUGUST 2016) by Roy Brown

The most important job with our Cymbidiums for the next month will be caring for the flower spikes, training those that need straightening up and seeing that they receive the proper shade conditions to bring out the best colour in the blooms. During July the flower spikes grow rapidly and soon the majority of the flower buds will be visible. August will see the spikes lengthen further, and the flower buds space themselves out on the stem in readiness for flowering. It's from this stage onwards that they have to be watched carefully. Heavy rain or hail can spoil your flower buds, so the plant will need to be moved into the flowering section where a close watch can be kept on the progress of the spikes. Also watch that the wind doesn't cause the plant's leaves to knock or rub against the flower buds. This quite often happens and a small mark on a bud at this stage will show up as a bad blemish on the flower sepals when the bud opens. Plants that are under cover for protection should be watered regularly. If they are allowed to dry out you'll run the risk of bud drop. Finally this month, make sure you have sufficient flower pots and a good supply of mix on hand in readiness for the repotting jobs that can be started after the end of next month.

CATTLEYA CULTURAL NOTES (JULY/AUGUST 2016) based on notes of the late Henry Eaton.

July and August are usually the coldest months of the year. This seems to be holding true in 2016. Culture of your cattleyas depends on keeping the plants out of the rain so that the roots are not sitting in a cold wet mix, which if it is maintained for a while, will result in the death of the roots. Watering can be done on a bright day, as early in the day as possible, so the plant can dry out as much as possible before the cold night sets in. Also remember that cattleyas like to dry out between waterings, so they may only need two or three waterings for the month. If fertilizing your plants, this could be done perhaps once in the month, because the cold would induce dormancy at this time. There still may be some plants that, because of their genetic inheritance, show signs of new growth with the appearance of new roots at this time. If any of these are spotted and they need potting on or repotting, this should be done now, as if left for later they may not form new roots once again. Protect buds and flower sheaths and keep a constant look out for snails and slugs and bait for them.

Keep an eye out for plants in the shadehouse that have spent flowers. Spent flowers and flower sheaths should be removed with scissors or secateurs that are sterilised before use on each plant. At this time of year in particular, water that collects in old flower sheaths and stagnates can lead to rot that will result in loss of the pseudobulb.

PAPHIOPEDILUM CULTURAL NOTES (JULY/AUGUST 2016) by Trevor Burnett.

These are the truly wonderful months, and most rewarding for the Paphiopedilum growers, especially of the exhibition type clones. We should be flush with flowers with some of our old favourites flowering again, and some new seedlings we have been eagerly awaiting to flower for several years, finally producing flowers. In many cases for new seedlings, we experience disappointment or indeed sheer joy, at the quality of the flowers. My watering programme is still at 14 day intervals, but I may give additional watering if the weather is fine and sunny for 6-8 days in a row. With the flowers now fully in bloom, it is time to re-assess your collection and decide what plants you are going to keep or dispose of as surplus. It is also a good time to work out whether you are short on any particular colour or types, so you can purchase new divisions or seedlings from other growers who are disposing of surplus divisions. I still will give the flowering plants fertilizer on a fortnightly or monthly basis. The smaller, un-flowered plants will still require fertilizer at one-quarter to one-half strength, on a fortnightly or monthly basis, to keep the growth moving forward. Flowers can be left on 2-3 growth plants without harm, as long as the plants are healthy and showing good, strong growths. With smaller plants flowering for the first time on a single growth, not showing signs of a secondary growth, the quick removal of the flowers will facilitate the best growth. This will promote new growths and ensure strong growth and flowers in future years. The flower can be enjoyed as a cut flower for some time.

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Tips for Showing Plants by Trevor Burnett

With a great deal of shows around now, you should ensure your plants are free from any bugs, especially mealy bug, before you contemplate getting the plants ready for the various shows. If mealy bugs are detected, they should be treated before entering the plant in a show. Taking some time to prepare your plants will ensure all your growing efforts are presented at their best for judging. Softbodied bugs, such as aphids & mealy bugs: Straight 70% or 90% alcohol (methylated spirits) – touch the insects with a soaked cotton swab or for larger infestations, spray the entire plant with a 50/50 mix with water, being sure to thoroughly wet all surfaces. Repeat every 3 days for about 2 weeks. I suggest you ensure that you:

- (a) present clean pots;
- (b) remove dead leaves from plants before showing;
- (c) clean foliage of any old sprays, dirt or dust. When wiping down leaves, hold the leaf at the base and wipe to the tip. This will prevent leaves being inadvertently pulled off, especially on newer growths;
- (d) ensure the plants are correctly labelled and that labels are legible;
- (e) ensure plants are neatly staked without excessive ties.

Minutes of the General Meeting of The Orchid Society of WA (Inc.) held in the Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning, on 24 June 2016 (Recorded by R McGrath)

Welcome: Kaye Baylis opened the meeting at 7.35pm welcoming visitors, members. **Apologies:** As per register.

Meeting Item: Neutrog Fertilizers with Brian Klepzig An excellent presentation, Brian outlined what each organic product is best used for & the breakdown of ingredients. He also introduced the latest product "Bush Tucker". Our next order will be placed in September for delivery in October. Further information in August Bulletin. Many thanks to Brian.

Break for tea and popular vote.

Minutes: Moved R Pohl, seconded L Brooks that the Minutes of the previous meeting be accepted. **Carried.**

Business arising: Winter Show – see General Business **Confirmation**: Moved L Brooks, seconded R Pohl that the business arising has been resolved. **Carried**

Correspondence:

- Royal Show –participation cancelled
- Bruce Larson / WAROO info about \$500 contribution from WAROO to cover costs of participation in Intersociety Display and Workshop
- Floraplant unable to accommodate OSWA this year
- Tropical Colours visit 13th August refer reports
- Invoice for trailer registration from WA Dept of Transport Treasurer
- From WAROO, receipt for \$40 (affiliation fee) and info about the ISODW ("the challenge")
- 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: None

Confirmation: Moved J Walton seconded L Brooks that Correspondence be endorsed. Carried.

Financial Statement: prepared by K Bayliss

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

New Members: Angela Measday (Seville Grove) -- to be confirmed at committee. Rafeeq and Roslyn Mohammad (Boyup Brook), Priscilla Finch (Fremantle), Brian Mahoney (Bullcreek), Wanda Frantom (Canning Vale).

General Business:

- Tropical Colours visit: South Perth Community Bus Saturday 13th August (17 seats available) Pick up at Manning SC 9.30am
- Orchid Display & Workshop August Busselton August 6th -7th, Dinner money \$50pp needs to ASAP.
 Plants are needed & for those not attending, plants can be delivered to K Baylis 18 Wheyland St
 Willagee by Thursday 4th August
- Winter Show Manning SC Activity Centre- set up Friday 8th July from 6pm, judging from 7.30pm. Entry tickets, Schedules & Sales Tickets available at the front desk. Ad. sheets- members please display
- Keep Saturday 10/9/16 clear, for OSWA's 70th anniversary celebrations. Names to go on the list if want to attend Dinner

Raffle: G Esmond, E Burgess, V Cooper, P Kissell (plant next meeting). Thanks to Rod Pohl for donating two Cyms for the Raffle.

Popular Vote:

Open: Howeara Mary Eliza, owner Peter Masters

Novice: Blc Chinese Beauty owner Valerie Cooper (plant next meeting)

Badge Prize: Brian Mahoney

Meeting Closed at 9.16pm

MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION (June 2016)

OPEN

1A	(7)	1 2 3	P Masters P Masters P Kissell	Cattleya intermedia alba Laelia anceps var. veitchiana Laelia anceps			
1B	(3)	1 2 3	P Masters P Masters P Masters	<i>Brassolaeliocattleya</i> Sweet Honey <i>Cattleya</i> Old Whitey <i>Brassolaeliocattleya</i> Brunswick Delight			
2D	(1)	1	P Kissell	Cymbidium Sarah Jean			
6D	(3)	1 2 3	P Masters P Masters M Godbeer	<i>Howeara</i> Mary Eliza <i>Vuylstekeara</i> Linda Isler <i>Degarmoara</i> Skywalker "Red Star"			
8B	(1)	1	I Duncan	Dendrobium Hilda Poxon			
9A	(1)	1	I Duncan	Pterostylis aspera			
10B	(1)	1	P Masters	Harealla retrocalla			
NOVICE							
15B	(1)	1	V Cooper	Brassolaeliocattleya Chinese Beauty "Orchid Queen"			
17A	(1)	1	R Pohl	Paphiopedilum insigne			

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POPULAR VOTE	OPEN:	P Masters	Howeara Mary Eliza						
	NOVICE	E: V Cooper	Brassolaeliocattleya Chinese I	Beauty "Orchid Queen"					
SCHOKMAN TROPHY (Laelinae)	P Maste	ters Cattleya intermedia alba (72 points)		points)					
RESULTS FROM THE WINTER SHOW (9 July 2016)									
Grand Champion		Bulbophyllum	echinolabium	Maxine Godbeer					
Reserve Champion		Jumellea major		Maxine Godbeer					
Best Cymbidium		Cymbidium Or	ne Tree Hill 'Waikanae Canary'	Rosemary McGrath					
Best Laeliinae Alliance		<i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> Dal's Passion (Schokman Trophy: 72.5 points)		Rod Dalziell					
Best Paphiopedilum		Paphiopedilum	י Papyrus	George Price					
Best Dendrobeae (excluding Australian Natives)		Dendrobium alexandrae x Dendrobium forbesii 'J+C'		Rosemary McGrath					
Best Australian Native		<i>Dendrobium</i> Colonial Surprise x <i>Dendrobium</i> Jesmond Gold		lan Duncan					
Best Oncidinae		Odontocidium	Tiger Crow 'Golden Girl'	Rosemary McGrath					
Best Vandeae		Jumellea majo	r	Maxine Godbeer					
Best Species		Bulbophyllum	echinolabium	Maxine Godbeer					
Best Any Other Genera	L	Bulbophyllum	echinolabium	Maxine Godbeer					
Best Specimen		Jumellea majo	r	Maxine Godbeer					
Best seedling		Cymbidium Ho	ot 'n' Spicy x Cymbidium Scott	Brad Burrell					
Best Novice Entry		Oncidium Jane	ette	Meg Donald					
AOC Most Pre Eminent	Entry	Rodriguezia de	ecora	Maxine Godbeer					
Best Floral Art Entry				Meg Donald					
Best Junior Entry		Cymbidium Dr	Baker 'Hyacinth'	Dana Mitchell					

There were 76 plants entered in the show: 63 open and 13 novice/junior.