

THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ORCHID BULLETIN

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

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OCTOBER 2016

NEXT MEETING of the Orchid Society of Western Australia (Inc.) will be held at the **Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning**, on **Friday 28 October, 2016**, commencing at **7:30 pm**.

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THIS MONTH'S MEETING ITEM:

ORCHIDS IN EUROPE
CARSTEN HAMMER

NOVEMBER MEETING DATES:

OSWA Committee 7:30 pm Friday 4th
General Meeting 7:30 pm Friday 25th

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Vale: Roy Brown.

Roy passed away on 20th September 2016, aged 92 years.

Roy was OSWA's longest serving member, having joined the Society back in 1953. His wife Meg joined a couple of years later. OSWA bestowed a Life Membership to Roy in 1978.

Roy has held many positions in the Society.

President: 1975, 1976, 1977 and again 1981, 1982.

Writer of the Cymbidium notes since 1967 (and we are still using Roy's notes).

Committee member prior to 1969, up until 2013

Patron: 2011-2012

Roy's love of Orchids showed in all that Roy did. He was very active in the Society and also was Patron of the Cymbidium Club. He was very active in the earlier years in the W.A. Native Orchid Study and Conservation Group.

As well, Roy served as a judge from 1963 until 2012, was Chairman of the Judging Panel for many years until 2012, and was heavily involved in training of new judges. He loved his judging and wouldn't miss a meeting or show if he could help it, happily travelling as far as Bunbury and Albany to judge their shows. Roy always did his rostered duty to judge orchids at Society monthly meetings, not just at OSWA but at other clubs too. Roy also traveled to other states and overseas to follow his love of orchids and to judge at Conferences.

Roy had a great knowledge of his Orchids, and had special love of Cymbidiums. He won major prizes with his Paphiopedilums and Cattleyas.

Roy is going to be sadly missed at the Orchid functions. Roy is now at peace and re-united with his beautiful wife Meg. We have sent a lot of Orchids for Roy to look after up to Orchid Heaven, so we know that they are in safe hands and being looked after with love and tender care.

Good-bye to a dear friend and Orchid companion.

Rest in Peace.

Potting Workshop: Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre

The workshop will be held on Sunday 23rd October, 10 am until 4 pm. Setup from about 8 am. *Please bring along plants in flower for the display.* As well as the display, there will be sales of orchids and orchid-related paraphernalia, talks, scones and other snacks, and plants will be repotted. Potters & helpers needed. This is an excellent event for anyone wishing to learn more about potting and other aspects of orchid culture (and members get in for free!).

Birthdays

October: 5th Nathan Carless, 16th Barbara Burnett, 25th Elizabeth Gilbert. **November:** 10th George Price, 18th 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.

New Members

Welcome to Lee Eveleigh, Barbara Foster, Dawn Fathers, and Elizabeth Gilbert. We hope you have many rewarding years ahead with our Society.

Helpers at General Meetings

If you are able, please help with packing away tables at the end of the meetings. Many hands make for light work.

Neutrog Delivery

Some products that were requested as part of our bulk Neutrog order were not available in WA, so delivery of the order has been delayed. The expected delivery date is now Thursday 20 October. Members who have placed orders will be contacted when they are available for pickup.

It is time to bring the Trophies back!

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.

Awards Quarterly magazines 1981-2007 free to good home

Awards Quarterly is produced by the American Orchid Society. It contains information about orchids that receive awards from the AOS, and includes many colour photos. Contact Murray Baker if interested.

CATTLEYA CULTURAL NOTES (OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2016) - 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 centimetres 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 125 mm to a 150 mm 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 2016) 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 restrict 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 every 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.

CYMBIDIUM CULTURAL NOTES (OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2016) - notes of the late 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 a centimetre 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.

Minutes of the General Meeting of The Orchid Society of WA (Inc.) held in the Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning, Friday 23rd September 2016 (Recorded by R McGrath)

Welcome: Vice president, Malcolm Davis opened the meeting at 7.30pm welcoming visitors, members. President Kaye Baylis arrived 7.55pm to take over the meeting.

One Minutes' silence for Roy Brown: Past Patron, Chairman of the Judging Panel & long time OSWA member.

Apologies: As per register.

Meeting Item: Deflasking of orchids. Kirsty showed how to extract plants from a flask, rinsing them in luke warm water then potting into a mix of sphagnum moss & perlite. She suggested keeping the baby plants in a covered seedling tray until they are hardened to the outside environment. Members then bought & potted their own plants.

Break for tea and popular vote.

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

Business arising: None

Confirmation: Moved V Cooper, seconded P Kissell that the business arising has been resolved. Carried

Correspondence:

- Email to WA orchid clubs about Neutrog bulk order. Reply from Peel OS.
- Invoice & letter of thanks to Kardinya
- Sam Bold media student wishes to attend our meeting – attended & was pleased with the result.
- Received three orchid books (classics, > 60 years old) from a member of the public (books were offered in the Bulletin, now owned by a new member).
- From Albert Maas, promoting his website of orchid photos (www.globalorchids.info)
- Membership applications from Lee Eveleigh and Barbara Foster Refer October Committee Meeting
- Condolences for Roy Brown from staff at Neutrog & from OSWA
- From Tony Watkinson, news about WAOS 2017 (W.A. Orchid Spectacular Conference & Show Rendezvous Hotel, West Coast H/W, Scarborough, Western Australia 5th & 6th August 2017), including list of invited speakers. (Look out for more info in the bulletin.)
- OSWA's details provided to Consumer Affairs (procedure required for new Associations laws)
- Email from Andy Dolphin re photos of greenhood orchids on Mt Talyuberlup (Stirling Ranges)
- Responses to general enquiries from members of the public about where to obtain orchids, etc.
- Received: Society Bulletins and junk mail.

Business arising: L Gilbert showed photographs of spider orchids at Margaret River

Confirmation: Moved M Donald seconded R Pohl that Correspondence be endorsed. Carried.

Financial Statement: prepared by K Bayliss

Confirmation: Moved J Baylis, seconded C Rogasch, that the Financial Statement and Accounts for Payment be

endorsed. Carried.

New Members: Mrs Merle Taylor & Mrs Beverley Randozzo, Spearwood; Eric & Jacqui Bateman, Leeming.

Reports:

WAROO – meeting next week

Spring Show — Great success thanks to those who helped set up the Display especially after the Judging had finished. Thanks to Merrill Brechin for beautifully writing on the Champion cards.

OSWA's 70th anniversary celebrations, Saturday 10/9/16. Commemorative booklets available for \$5 each.

Thanks to Trevor Burnett for compiling the booklet & for organizing the entertainment for the evening. Everyone had a great time.

General Business:

- **Potting Workshop** October 23rd. Arrangements were discussed. Additional helpers will be required on the day.
- **October meeting speaker: Carsten Hammer**, member of the German Orchid Society (www.orchidee.de) and board member of the European Orchid Council. He has also served on the last two site selection committees for the World Orchid Conference. He will be speaking about European orchids. Carsten is keen to visit local growers, especially folks with Australian dendrobiums, so if anyone is interested in meeting Carsten and letting him visit their orchid house, please let Murray know.
- **Roy Brown's funeral** will be held at 11 am this Saturday, 24 September, at Oakwood Funeral Home, Marmion Street, Booragoon.
- **It's time to bring back any trophies**
- Thank you to Graham Esmond for donating baskets for the raffle.
- Redundant OSWA equipment free to good home: printer, paper shredder, speaker stand, microphone stand.
- Lynn Brooks asked for helpers to help repot John & Jean Wells' orchids

Raffle: Malcolm Davis, Ian Duncan, Lynn Brooks, Coral Beilby, Liz Gilbert, Rosemary McGrath, Judith Brabin, Meg Donald, Lina Pacca. Many thanks to members who donated plants, baskets, etc. for the raffle.

Popular Vote: Open: *Dendrobium kingianum*, owner Ian Duncan

Novice: *Brassolaeliocattleya* (Hadvai Delight x Blc. Srisil Gold), owner Valerie Cooper

Badge Prize: Jim Baylis

Meeting Closed at 9.50pm.

MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION (September 2016)

OPEN

3C	(1)	1	P Kissell	<i>Paphiopedilum Maudiae</i> x <i>Paphiopedilum</i> Hsinying Pitch
3D	(1)	1	P Kissell	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Kerry Ann x <i>Paphiopedilum</i> Suzie Del
8A	(1)	1	I Duncan	<i>Dendrobium kingianum</i>
11B	(2)	1	C Rogasch	<i>Zygopetalum</i> Adelaide Meadows "Pure Jade" x <i>Zygopetalum</i> Dynamite "Green Jelly"
		2	C Rogasch	<i>Zygopetalum</i> Unknown

NOVICE

15C	(1)	1	V Cooper	<i>Brassolaeliocattleya</i> (Hadvai Delight x Srisil Gold)
17A	(1)	1	R Pohl	<i>Paphiopedilum villosum</i>
17C	(2)	1	R Pohl	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Rowena (<i>bellatulum</i> x <i>chamberlainianum</i>)
		2	R Pohl	Paph. Henriettan Fujiwara
20D	(1)	1	J Krishnan	<i>Colmonara</i> Wildcat "Bloodshot"
22B	(5)	1	M Donald	<i>Dendrobium</i> Jesmond Gem "Ruby Grace"
		2	M & A Davis	<i>Dendrobium</i> Unknown
		3	R Pohl	<i>Dendrobium</i> Unknown
24B	(1)	1	R Pohl	<i>Bletilla striata</i>
25B	(1)	1	R Pohl	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Calurum

POPULAR VOTE

OPEN: I Duncan
NOVICE: V Cooper

Dendrobium kingianum
Brassolaeliocattleya (*Hadvai Delight* x
Srisil Gold)

SCHOKMAN TROPHY
(*Laelinae*)

V Cooper

Brassolaeliocattleya (*Hadvai Delight* x
Srisil Gold) (73 points)

JIM GRANTHAM TROPHY
(*Phragmipedium*)

R Pohl

Phragmipedium Calurum (65 points)

Anti-cancer properties of *Bletilla* orchids

Recently I received an interesting email from Mr Chris Hayes-Brown, an orchid enthusiast from Bicester, England. Chris purchased a *Bletilla* orchid many years ago, and had heard that for about two thousand years this type of orchid has been used in China and Japan as a treatment for various forms of cancer in humans, goats, cattle, water buffalo and other animals. So, when Chris's beloved pet dog Layla was diagnosed with cancer, Chris convinced the vet to treat Layla with a preparation made from his *Bletilla* orchid. Sadly, Layla eventually succumbed to the cancer, but Chris credits *Bletilla* with prolonging Layla's life. Layla was a devoted and much-loved pet. An orchid, *Cymbidium* Layla Troy, has been named in her memory and registered with the RHS. An article from the *Bicester Advertiser* about Chris's story can be found at:

http://www.bicesteradvertiser.net/news/14803073.Plant_named_in_honour_of_dog_that_battle_cancer/

In May this year, a team of chemists from Quanzhao, China published a paper about anti-cancer activity of 7-hydroxy-2-methoxy-phenanthrene-3,4-dione and 3',7',7'-trihydroxy-2,2',4'-trimethoxy-[1,8'-biphenanthrene]-3,4-dione, and four other compounds extracted from from *Bletilla striata*. In March 2015, another team of chemists from Hangzhao, China published a paper about antibiotics extracted from the roots of *Bletilla striata*.

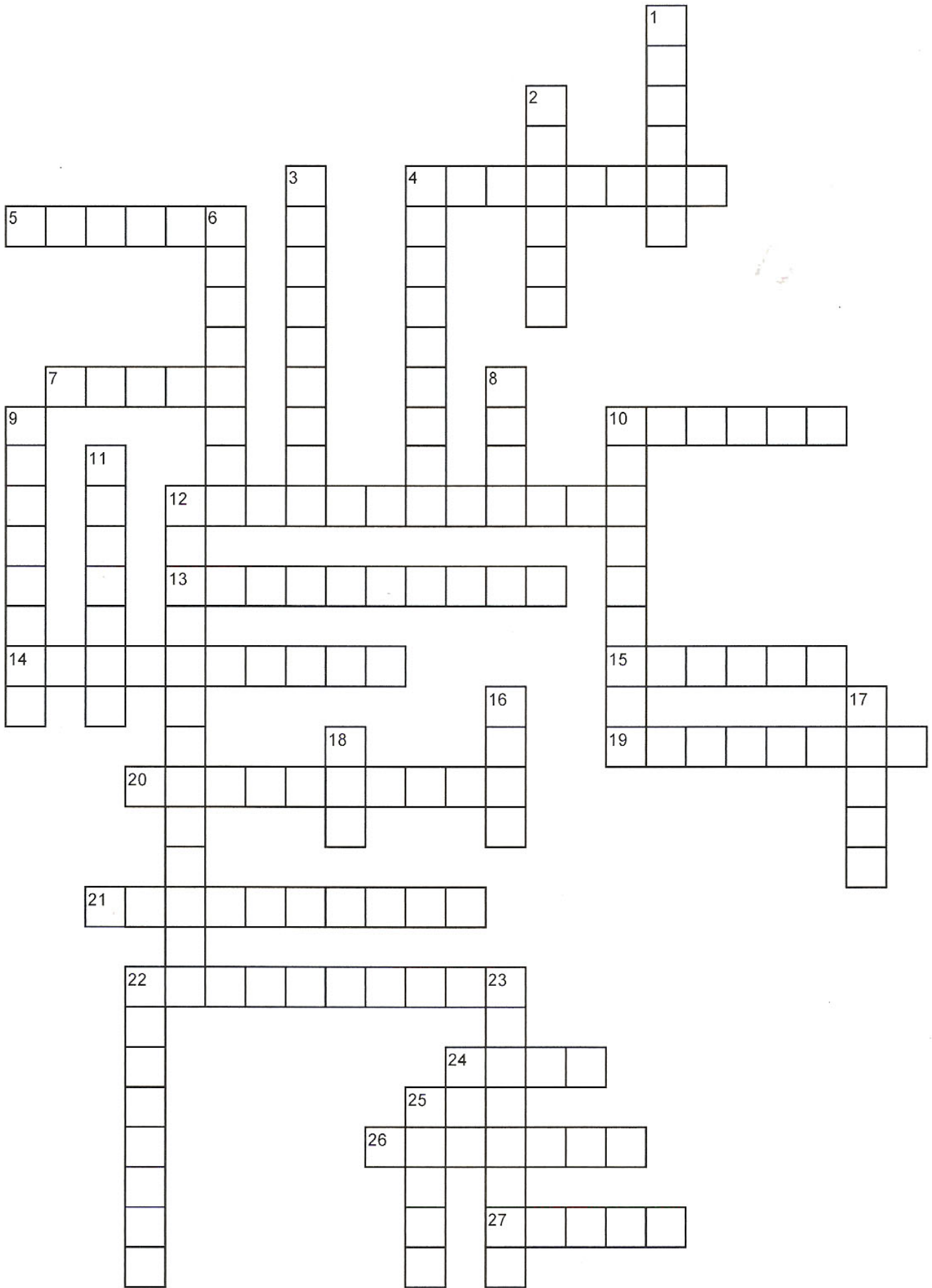
Crossword — All About Orchids*by Trevor Burnett*

Across

- 4 White fuzzies
5 Orchid crosses
7 Rules governing trading of endangered plants
10 Uppermost sepal
12 Cross between two or more genera
13 Light measurement
14 Grows on rocks
15 Common weed amongst orchids
19 Huge plant
20 Water & nutrient storage system
21 Single vegetative shoot growing upward
22 2x the chromosomes
24 Group of progeny of a specific cross
26 Root cover
27 Growing tip of plant

Down

- 1 Potting material
2 Tiny grains of genetic material
3 Two leaves on a single bulb
4 Plant duplicate made in lab
6 Means of sharing plants by cutting
8 Joint or notch on flowering stem
9 Old pseudobulb for propagating
10 Loss of leaves
11 Orchid babies out of the flask and into the
12 Flowering portion of the orchid
16 White form of a flower
17 Group of orchids with common ancestry
18 Seed capsule
22 Naming orchids
23 Rest period
25 A baby!



An Invitation to OSWA from The Australasian Native Orchid Society of W.A. (Inc.)

On Monday 14th November the Australasian Native Orchid Society of WA will have a presentation of Native Orchid photos (both WA and Australasian orchids). The photos will be shown after a brief general meetign (at 7:45 pm). All are welcome to stay for a cop of tea or coffee and cake ro biscuit.

An interesting and enjoyable evening, to be held:

Monday 14th November 2016 at 8:00 pm
Wilson Community Hall,
Braibrise Road (just off Leach Highway)
Wilson.

Some orchids seen near Toodyay in September:



Cyanicula ixioides



Caladenia flava

W.A. Orchid Spectacular Conference & Show
Rendezvous Hotel, West Coast H/W, Scarborough, Western Australia
5th & 6th August 2017

Dear Orchid Aficionado,

GOOD NEWS regarding the **W.A. Orchid Spectacular Conference & Show** in 2017

Planning is moving apace with a number of world renowned orchid identities already accepting our invitation to present lectures for the Conference Registrants. All our overseas speakers will give two talks and bring orchid flasks for sale at the event. Pre orders will be taken for these. This is an opportunity not to be missed!! Further info as it comes to hand.

In keeping with our efforts to bring the best to WA, we offer the following speakers for your enjoyment.

Holger Perner is recognised as a world authority on Chinese Paphiopedilums and has lived and worked in China for the last 15 years, researching Paphs through his and his wife's own orchid nursery

Hengduan Mountains Biotechnology. Holger will give two talks at the W.A. Orchid Spectacular Conference & Show in 2017, and this will be a 'must' for all Paph lovers.

Marni Turkel is a hobby grower who has been growing orchids since 1980 at her home in Santa Rosa, California, and now has three greenhouses for orchids of differing climates. Marni has been flasking her own seedlings since 2009. Her lab is brimming over with flasks of vigorous seedlings of rare and choice species not available anywhere else. Many of the species she is propagating for sale have never been offered before.

Bill Thoms is 'The' world authority on Bulbophyllums, (the largest genus in the orchid world!) their culture, and hybridizing. Bill and his wife, Doris, have been growing orchids around Central Florida for almost 45 years and have received almost every award granted by the AOS as well as more Awards for Culture than anyone else in the world, (83 in over 26 genera, including 36 in the Bulbophyllum alliance (capped off with a 96 pt. Certificate of Cultural Excellence for Bulb. Frank Smith 'The King'). Bill says of his flasking: "I want you to be happy. If you are not happy with anything for any reason (other than my humor), I will make it right. I will treat you just like I would like to be treated. This isn't just the old runaround. I promise."

Mark Brundrett is a Senior Scientist at the Department of Environment and Conservation in Swan Region and an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Western Australia. He has also provided botanical expertise to the Environmental Protection Agency for environmental impact assessment and policy development. His orchid research focused on the conservation of WA orchids in a 4 year project which helped conserve critically endangered orchids in the Western Australian Wheatbelt by obtaining knowledge required for sustainable management and directly contributing to recovery actions.

All this (and more) for the WAOS Registrants in August 2017, for a very reasonable \$100 for the first Registrant and \$75 for an accompanying Registrant which includes the Opening Ceremony

<http://www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/Registration.htm>

The venue will be the Ballroom of the Rendezvous Hotel at Scarborough WA, which overlooks the famous Scarborough Beach. The hotel management has promised us their special room rate for registrants, so look out for this in future Bulletins. Complimentary internet access is available throughout the hotel, including event spaces. Scarborough Beach is about a 20 minute drive north west of Perth and is serviced by regular buses from the city. The venue is surrounded by many restaurants and cafes offering a wide variety of cuisines.

It is planned to have the show set up and judging completed on Friday the 4th August, and open to the public on both Saturday the 5th and Sunday the 6th August with the lecture program and public workshops on both days.

The WAOS Conference web site is now on line and will be updated from time to time as we have further news and information for you. http://www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/WAOS_2017.htm

Planning for the 5 day Orchid Tour of the Midwest of Western Australia for Registrants, will be a major attraction for many interstate lovers of Australian native orchids. Places on the tour led by Andrew Brown will be extremely limited, so do get in fast if you do not want to miss out. You can register your interest on our '**Expressions of Interest**' page on the Conference web site.

http://www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/WAOS_2017.htm

It is, of course, early days, as the conference is still some time away, but it is never too soon to be making your plans to visit us in 2017.

We urge all orchid societies to reprint this Bulletin, and any other material from our web site in your club newsletters.

Should you have any queries or questions regarding the WAOS 2017, feel free to contact the Chairman, Bruce Larson (bruce@pegasusconsulting.org) or the Webmaster, Tony Watkinson (waos@iinet.net.au)

Tony Watkinson
Webmaster