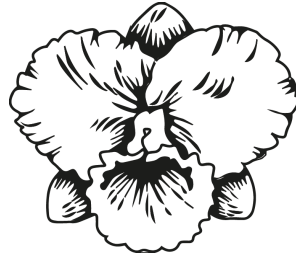


THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ORCHID BULLETIN

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

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APRIL 2018

NEXT MEETING of the Orchid Society of Western Australia (Inc.) will be held at the **Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning**, on **Friday 27th April, 2018**, commencing at **7:30 pm**.

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THIS MONTH'S MEETING ITEM:

NAMING OF ORCHIDS
TARA PEETERS

MAY MEETING DATES:

OSWA Committee 7:30 pm Friday 4th

General Meeting 7:30 pm Friday 25th

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Birthdays

April: 7th Rosemary McGrath, 10th Bernadette Campbell, 12th Karen Carless, 17th Mike Burgess, 29th Ian Duncan.

May: 7th Dorothy Walton, 9th Ellen Dixon.

Best wishes to anyone else celebrating Birthdays or Anniversaries. Congratulations to **Jim and Kaye Baylis**, who celebrated their **55th wedding anniversary** this month.

To any member on the sick list we wish you a speedy recovery & may you soon be well.

New Members

Welcome to Stephanie Williamson and Bernard Rowles. We hope you have many rewarding years ahead with our Society.

Neutrog Bulk Order

Orders will be available for pick up from Rosemary's home, 2 Morrish Place, Como, on Sunday 29th April after 1 pm.

Shed Clean Up Day -- Sunday 29th April, starts at 2 pm!

Our annual shed clean up day to prepare for the upcoming show season will be on Sunday 29th April, at McDougal Park, Como. **This event has been re-scheduled to start at 2 pm.** Due to the late start there will be no sausage sizzle, but there will be afternoon tea, and Lina has kindly offered to bring some scones for the occasion.

Tropical Colours Orchid Nursery Visit + Bus Trip

The nursery is at 558 Gossage Road, Oldbury. Our visit is on **Saturday 5 May**, starting at around 10 am. We have organised a free bus, which will leave from Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre at 9:30 am. The bus will be towing a trailer, to haul back the purchases. Places on the bus are limited — to book a seat, call Rosemary on 0401 508 667 or add your name to the list at the April general meeting, otherwise you can drive or car pool and meet at the Nursery at 10 am.

Do you want to receive news about Perth's World Orchid Conference by email?

Tony Watkinson is compiling an email list to disseminate information related to the 2023 World Orchid Conference, WA Orchid Spectaculars, etc. Tony does not to divulge email addresses to third parties. If you would like to have your email address added to this list, let me know (murray.baker@iinet.net.au) or contact Tony directly at waos@iinet.net.au.

Koi Show

The Koi Society of WA has invited OSWA to put on a small display at their annual show, to be held at Willowpond, 459 Nicholson Rd, Canning Vale, 10 am - 2 pm on Sunday 27 May 2018. This is another opportunity for us to show off our club to members of the public, and the Koi are interesting too. Eric Bateman has volunteered to coordinate OSWA's display this year. Anyone interested in helping out, please contact Eric or Murray for further info.

Orchid Auction — Saturday 28th April

There will be an orchid auction this Saturday, 28 April, at 83 Arkana Rd Westminster. The orchids for sale are from a long-standing grower who is downsizing his collection. Open for inspection from 9 am, auction to start at 10 am. **STRICTLY NO SALES PRIOR TO THE AUCTION**, so please do not call or visit before the auction. Cymbidiums (including huge species), cattleyas, oncidiums, brassias, sarcochilus, Australian native dendrobiums, hard and soft cane dendrobiums, phalaenopsis, vandasa, epidendrums and more. Orchids will be sold in lots. Also, lots of orchid accessories including a brand new 4 m x 4 m greenhouse (price to be negotiated). Please bring your own boxes to cart away your purchases, and a chair if you want to sit. Tea and coffee supplied, and there is an undercover area for your comfort. For further info, call Tony W (9342 3799) or Tony B (9309 1828).

Perth Garden Festival

Thank you to everyone who helped out. The Festival was a big success and the OSWA stall attracted plenty of interest.

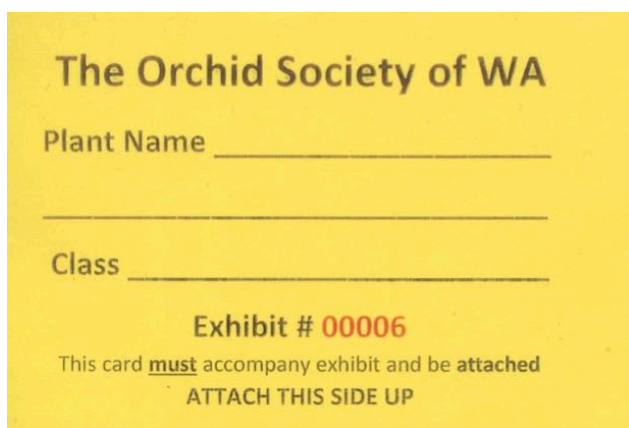
New OSWA Plant Entry Cards for Shows

We are adopting a new card system for entering plants in shows. With the old card system, there were two cards per entry; one card was attached to the plant, the other was handed in to the Show record keepers. These cards are not to be used at shows anymore. If you still have some of these cards, they will serve nicely as bookmarks.

With the new card system, there is only card, and it is attached to the plant. At the April general meeting, Rosemary will explain how the new system will work.

Front side

Back side



Some Benefits of being a member of OSWA

New members: As part of OSWA's agreement with Neutrog, new members should receive a "Welcome Pack" of samples of Neutrog products. If you have joined OSWA this year but have not received your Welcome Pack, then please remind Murray to forward your contact details to Neutrog. As well as sending a Welcome Pack, Neutrog will send occasional emails about Neutrog products and general news about Neutrog.

Long-standing members: OSWA usually receives 10% commission from the sales of plants at the sales table. Last year, on a trial basis, the commission was waived for up to 10 plants at any given meeting for sellers who had been members of OSWA for 5 years or longer. The trial was successful (there are many plants up for sale at every meeting) and the Committee has decided that this scheme will now be adopted indefinitely, as a reward for long-standing members. An eligible member wishing to take advantage of this trial should indicate on the Plant Sales form that they have been in OSWA for 5+ years.



Ian Duncan with his Dendrobium Chela Color's FCA, open popular vote winner at the March meeting. This dendrobium has striking dark burgundy-coloured flowers. Ian flowers this orchid beautifully at about this time each year.

CYMBIDIUM CULTURAL NOTES (APRIL/MAY 2018) based on notes from Roy Brown

Now that the cooler months are coming, a start can be made on repotting. It's always good idea to make an early start on the job of repotting, especially if you have a fairly large collection of cymbidiums. A start can be made on small plants, as well as divisions, that are not expected to flower this year. Any plants that are already showing signs of flower spikes are better left until after the flowers have been cut off. April is the month when most of the Spring flowering plants send up their spikes. Cymbidium spikes are produced from the base of the pseudo bulb, or sometimes they appear between the lower and second leaves. The early flowering cymbidiums have already produced their spikes and these will continue to grow at a fast rate, in some cases the flower buds can be seen already. Take care of these new spikes, they are easily damaged, and keep all snails, slugs and insects away from the buds. Use Baysol to keep the snails and slugs away, and for all other biting insects, use a powder form of insecticide on the flower buds. Don't use liquid insecticide or you could cause bud drop or malformed flowers once they finally open. Watering will probably be needed once a day from now on, preferably in the morning depending on weather conditions. The regular feeding programme can be continued with the addition of a little extra potash to help form the newly developing flower spikes.

CATTLEYA CULTURAL NOTES (APRIL/MAY 2018) based on notes from Henry Eaton

We have experienced a long summer, but autumn weather is finally starting to appear. When the true autumn weather arrives it will need a change in culture. As it ought to be cooler and more humid, the frequency of watering can be reduced, as well as stopping any watering in the evenings, so as to allow the plants to dry out before nightfall. The necessity to water a plant can be gauged by lifting up the pot and comparing the weight of a recently watered plant with what it felt before watering. Cattleyas in general do not like to have their roots wet all the time, but prefer a wet/dry cycle. Remember too, that the plant is only as good as its root system. Fertilisation with a high potassium, low nitrogen formulation can be used fortnightly as growth will be slowing down with winter approaching. Mature pseudo bulbs should be staked erect so that any buds or flowers will present well. If you use a malleable stake, take the stake to the errant bulb, rather than the other way round, as the latter could cause the bulb to fracture. Over a couple of days or a week or two, gradually straightening the stake can move a pseudo bulb from almost a flat position to an upright one, without damaging the bulb. If circumstances dictate that a plant has to be moved, try and place it in its new position at the same angle to the brightest light source as it was previously. If the weather turns, becomes more cloudy and there is a decrease in sunlight, you can also think about removing some of the shade applied in summer. Keep a close lookout for pests and deal with them promptly. Any unfinished potting on or repotting should be completed by mid-May.

PAPHIOPEDILUM CULTURAL NOTES (APRIL/MAY 2018) by Trevor Burnett

With the development of cooler conditions, any summer shading can be gradually removed. As the conditions cool, reduced watering will also be necessary. Personally, I reduce my watering back to twice a week, but am always mindful that we could still get some of those unexpected hot days when watering will need to be monitored. As the plants growth starts to slow, the fertilizer programme needs to be adjusted, going on to a fortnightly or monthly basis for small plants, depending on your time constraints, at $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ strength. Over the past few years I actually cut out all fertilizing for flowering size plants, as I have found that more plants tend to send up flowers if they are not receiving fertilizer in this period. This is also the time of the year that we start to see and enjoy the fruits of our year's growing, with plenty of the early flowers now beginning to appear. As flower spikes appear, mark the pot with a wooden skewer with a piece of foam on the top, so you are aware of all the plants that are going to flower. This also serves as a reminder to be careful when moving or cleaning nearby plants so as not to knock the valuable, long awaited buds off. With buds appearing, this is the time to flush out any snails or slugs that may be in hiding, just waiting for your prize plant to bloom so they can start their festive season with nice flowers to munch. If you do not wish to use chemical based baits, you can simply cut up some lemons and place them around the benches. The lemon does not kill any snails or slugs, but it does attract them. Once you know their whereabouts, you can easily eradicate them with a number 10 shoe, or in my case a number 7. Continue to remove any dead leaves from plants and also have a general cleanup of the area. I would ensure that all my small plants that are not expected to flower are repotted to ensure they have a nice clean open mix before going into winter. Winter and wet feet do not mix.

MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION (March 2018)

OPEN

1B	(2)	1	Courtney Rogasch	<i>Brassolaeliocattleya</i> Magic Meadow 'Napoleon'
		2	Courtney Rogasch	<i>Brassolaeliocattleya</i> Love Sound 'Dogashima' x <i>Cattleya</i> Cherry Chip 'Blumen Insel'
1C	(1)	1	Courtney Rogasch	<i>Cattleya</i> Fitz Eugene Dixon
3C	(1)	1	Anonymous	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Hsinying 'Red Apple' x <i>Paphiopedilum charlesworthii</i>
4C	(2)	1	Ian Duncan	<i>Dendrobium</i> Chela Color's FCA
		2	Ray Taylor	<i>Dendrobium</i> Jade Junior
6A	(1)	1	Tara Peeters	<i>Miltonia clowesii</i>
6D	(3)	1	Ian Duncan	<i>Oncidium</i> Florida Gold 'Merkel' AM/AOS
		2	Peter Kissell	<i>Oncidium</i> Rosy Sunset
		3	Ray Taylor	<i>Odontioda</i> Memoria Martin Orenstein 'Lulu'
11A	(1)	1	Ray Taylor	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Schroderae 'Pop Butler'

NOVICE

15A	(1)	1	Betty Saul	<i>Cattleya bowringiana</i>
15E	(1)	2	Betty Saul	<i>Cattleya bowringiana</i> x <i>Pottencii</i> (?)

POPULAR VOTE

OPEN	Ian Duncan	<i>Dendrobium</i> Chela Color's FCA
NOVICE	Betty Saul	<i>Cattleya bowringiana</i>

SCHOKMAN TROPHY (Laelinae) Courtney Rogasch *Cattleya* Fitz Eugene Dixon (70 points)

JIM GRANTHAM MEMORIAL TROPHY (Phragmipedium) Ray Taylor *Phragmipedium* Schroderae 'Pop Butler' (60 points)

**Minutes of the General Meeting held in the Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning, on
23 March 2018**

Welcome: 7:30 pm

Apologies: As per Register

Guest Speaker: Geoff Richardson (Richgro) gave a talk about Richgro products and some of the interesting current areas of product development.

Birthdays: March: 11th Merril Brechin, John Walton, 24th Raye McIntosh, 25th Lorna Dodd, 26th Kaye Baylis, Peggy Stacey.

Break for popular vote.

Minutes: Moved J Baylis, seconded M Brechin that the Minutes of the February meeting be accepted. **Carried.**

Business arising: Nil

Confirmation: Moved M Brechin, seconded R Gordon that the Business Arising has been resolved. **Carried.**

Correspondence:

- Neutrog re visit by Dr Uwe Stroehler on 12 April (speaking at Manning Community Centre 3-4 pm)
- To other societies, inviting them to join our bulk Neutrog order.

- From Shona Macskasy re: Koi Show (see General Business)
- Sara Fitzpatrick, re story for Community Newspapers about growing Phalaenopsis, mentioning OSWA
- Responses to emails from members of the public about where to buy orchids, show and meeting dates, etc.
- Received: Society Bulletins and junk mail.

Business arising: Nil.

Confirmation: Moved P Kissell, seconded L Pacca that Correspondence be endorsed. **Carried.**

Financial Statement: Presented by K Bayliss.

Confirmation: Moved K Bayliss, seconded J McLean that the Financial Statement and Accounts for Payment endorsed. **Carried.**

New Members: Betty Saul, Sue Chafer, and Cheryl Compagnone

Reports:

- **WOC info session.** C Rogasch noted that at this session the organisers talked about their submission that won Perth the opportunity to host the World Orchid Conference in 2023 and welcomed ideas for the conference. There will be much to organise over the next few years.

General Business:

- **Perth Garden Festival:** McCallum Park, set up from 10 am Wednesday 11 April. Open to public 9 am - 4 pm, Thursday 12 - Sunday 15 April. Need volunteers, plants in flower for a display. Donations of plants for a raffle will also be much appreciated. A number of members volunteered to help with setup and looking after the display during the week.
- **Shed Cleanup:** Sunday 29th April, at McDougal Park, Como, starting at 10am, to be followed by a sausage sizzle supplied by the Society.
- **Neutrog Orders:** Finalise by 24/3, pick up after Sunday 29th April after 1 pm (best: after shed cleanup)
- **Koi Show:** 10am-2pm Sunday 27 May; Willowpond, Nicholson Rd, Canning Vale. E Bateman volunteered to represent OSWA at this event.
- **Tropical Colours Nursery visit.** Saturday 5 May. Members can go there via own transport or via the bus that will leave MSCAC car park at 9:30 am. Limited space on bus, members wishing to go by bus to sign up (contact Rosemary or sign sheet at April meeting).
- **Demonstration of back-cutting the orchid rhizome** by C Rogasch. Courtney emphasized importance of using a sterile knife (sterilised in a flame or in trisodium phosphate solution) and sterilising and sealing the cut part of the plant (using Steriprune or mercurochrome).
- **Home Visit:** R Taylor proposed home visit including plants from NSW for sale and hot home-made soup for either Sat 28 or Sun 29 July. Date to be confirmed later.

Raffle: A Sipeierre, L Waters, M Brechin, G Esmond, M Grantham, M Donald. Thank you to P Kissell for kindly donating an extra raffle plant. **Door Prize:** K Bayliss.

Popular Vote: **Open:** Dendrobium Chela Color's FCA, grown by I Duncan.

Novice/Junior: Cattleya bowringiana, grown by B Saul.

Next Committee Meeting: Friday 13th April at the Manning SC Dining Hall

Next General Meeting: Friday 27th April (Tara Peeters - Orchid Nomenclature)

Meeting closed at 9:40 pm

Photo at right: *Cattleya bowringiana*. This impressive specimen was grown by Betty Saul and was winner of the novice section popular vote at the March general meeting.

The genus *Cattleya* was named by the famous English botanist and orchid enthusiast Dr John Lindley, as a tribute to William Cattley, in 1824. William Cattley was the first orchidist to flower *Cattleya labiata* in England, a feat he achieved in about 1818.

Cattleya bowringiana is native of western areas of Honduras and Guatemala. It was first flowered in England by J. C. Bowring, after being shipped to England in about 1884.

(Source: *Growing Orchids*, J. N. Rentoul, 1997.)

Correction

The orchid in the photo labelled as *Laelia fidelensis* in the March bulletin was in fact *Bulbophyllum guttatum*. Thank you to Maxine Godbeer, who grew the orchid and who pointed out my error within a few hours of the Bulletin being sent out.

