

THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ORCHID BULLETIN

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE ORCHID SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
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AUGUST 2018

NEXT MEETING of the Orchid Society of Western Australia (Inc.) will be held at the **Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning, on Friday 24th August, 2018, commencing at 7:30 pm.**

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THIS MONTH'S MEETING ITEM:

NEUTROG FERTILISERS
BRIAN KLEPZIG

SEPTEMBER MEETING DATES:

OSWA Committee 7:30 pm Friday 7th
General Meeting 7:30 pm Friday 28th

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

GENERAL NEWS	2-4
CULTURAL NOTES - CATTLEYA	4
CULTURAL NOTES - PAPHIOPEDILUM	4
CULTURAL NOTES - CYMBIDIUM	5
FROM OUR JULY MEETING	5
MINUTES	6
MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION	7

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Birthdays

August: 30th Kirsty Bayliss, 31st Lynn Brooks. September: 6th Alan Prosser, 14th Bob Longmore.
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.

News about Neutrog

(1) Our visiting speaker this month will be Brian Klepzig, from Neutrog. Brian's visits to OSWA are always much appreciated, not only because his talks are entertaining and informative, but also because he brings free samples. This month, the free sample will be a bag of the new product "Who Flung Dung" for each member at the meeting. It will not be possible for Brian to bring the bags to the meeting (they are large) so anyone wanting a bag will need to add their name to the list that will be available at the meeting, and the bags will be delivered to an address from where they can be picked up by members later.

(2) Our next bulk order of Neutrog products will be placed in September. Any members wishing to purchase Neutrog products should ensure payment & completed forms are sent to Kirsty Bayliss by 28th September (the day of the general meeting). An order form accompanies this bulletin but a few additional forms will be available at the August meeting. Purchases should be available for collection on 21st October.

Congratulations to Trevor Burnett

Trevor Burnett attended the 21st Australian Orchid Council Conference and Show in Sydney in July and entered a plant of his own breeding into the competition. The plant was *Paphiopedilum* TB Lorna Doone 'Karwar' (named for Lorna Dodd). Trevor's paph was Champion Australian Cut Flower, Champion Australian Cut Flower, and Best Standard *Paphiopedilum* of the show, and it received an AM (Award of Merit) from the judges.

Paphiopedilum TB Lorna Doone 'Karwar'
(photo from aocc2018.orchidsocietynsw.com.au)



Bulk Order of Orchiatea Bark — volunteers needed.

We will be placing a bulk order for Orchiatea bark soon. The price will be \$23 per bag for members, \$30 for non-members. This is excellent quality orchid bark at an excellent price, and it will be just in time for repotting season. We cannot, however, receive the order unless we can unload the truck when the delivery is made. Unloading is not a big deal, it just requires some people with muscles to carry bags one-by-one from the truck into the shed, over a distance of 5 or 10 metres. The delivery time will be mid-week. If you can help, please let Kirsty know (0413 599 998 or kirstylbayliss@gmail.com).

Spring Show: Kardinya Shopping Centre, Wednesday 29 August - Saturday 1 September.

Setup Tuesday 28th August, from about 5:30 pm; entries received from 6 pm; judging starts 7:30 pm.
Open to public Wednesday 29th August to 4.30pm Saturday 1st September. Plant sales daily (to be confirmed).

Roster, Sales Sheets, Entry Cards etc will be available at the August General Meeting. If you don't have perfect plants to enter in the competition, please consider bringing orchids in for the display. If you don't have any plants for display, please consider coming along anyway, to help set up and pack up the display, or look after the display and chat to members of the public.

New Members

Welcome to Chun Hua Yang, Paul Armstrong, Janine Harris, Bridget Seaman, and Pamela and Phil Chadd. We hope you have many rewarding years ahead with our Society.

Do you need new pots?

It's coming up to that time of year when repotting is the first order of business. At general meetings, OSWA offers a variety of sizes and styles of pots to members at exceptionally good prices. Anyone wishing to purchase pots should contact Kirsty Bayliss (0413 599 998 or kirstylbayliss@gmail.com) at least a few days prior to the general meeting so that the pots can be made available at the meeting.

Intersociety Orchid Display and Workshop – Thank you!

Thank you to all who helped out with OSWA's contribution to the Intersociety Orchid Display and Workshop, especially the folks who brought in plants, helped set up the display, and helped organise OSWA's plants for judging. This was a fantastic event and OSWA did very well, gaining 2nd place for the Display. Search for "orchid society of western australia" on YouTube to see a video Lynn recorded of the displays. The photo (below) of our display was taken by Rosemary McGrath.



For Sale: Eucalyptus oil @ \$3.00 per 100 mL.

Contact Courtney on 0407 049 717 prior to a meeting to arrange purchase.

Some dates to save...

Home visit at John Carless's place: in September 2018 or later, watch this space.

OSWA visit to Springfield Orchids. Nado Lenkic has offered to host OSWA at his nursery on **Sunday 7 October 2018**. Springfield Orchids is one of the few retailers of orchids in Perth and specialises in cymbidiums. The main flowering season is from now to October, so there will be many beautiful cymbidiums on display and for sale. More details next month, but you can learn more about the nursery at www.springfieldorchids.com.au.

Christmas Dinner: Sunday **11 November 2018**, at Itsara Thai Restaurant in Nedlands. The restaurant has excellent food and a special garden area adorned with live orchids. There will be a sign-up sheet at the general meeting.

Spring Orchid Fair 2018.

Venue: Aranmore Catholic College Hall, Oxford St, Leederville.

Setup Friday 14 September from 5 pm, open to public Saturday 15 September 9 am - 5 pm and Sunday 16 September 9 am - 3 pm.

This show is presented jointly by the Cymbidium Orchid Club of WA, Northern Districts Orchid Society, Wanneroo/Joondalup Orchid Society, Species Orchid Society of WA, Australasian Native Orchid Society and the Paphiopedilum Study Group of WA.

OSWA members are invited to attend and enter plants into the competition. Further info from Bruce Larson 0417 903 280, or Lynn Brooks 0414 922 923. Entry tickets and the Show Schedule are available by email from Helen Stretch, hstretch2007@bigpond.com.au

CATTLEYA CULTURAL NOTES (AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2018) based on notes from Henry Eaton

We are now coming into the blooming season where the last of your plants will complete their annual flowering. To present the flowers well, make sure the pseudo bulbs are tied vertically and the emerging buds face towards the main source of light.

Be careful with watering, as water remaining on the flowers at nightfall may lead to spotting with Botrytis fungus, ruining your display. To avoid flower spotting, water the orchids early in the morning on a bright day, so they can dry off by nightfall. If there are any bud sheaths that hold water, peel them open or remove them altogether. Alternatively, the sheaths can be left in place to provide additional support to the flower stem, and a sterile cutting tool can be used to carefully cut a small hole near the base of the sheath to allow any water to drain out. Good luck with your efforts.

This is also the time to think of repotting. Gather together the pots and potting mix you will require. Your choice of mix should be based on the time you can spare to thoroughly water your plants, thinking especially of summer when it is hot and you would rather stay inside than out.

Also think in terms of how long you would like to go between potting. The finer the mix, the faster it tends to break down, and this means more frequent potting. Also, smaller plants will need a finer mix than adult flowering ones. Finer mix also holds more water and less air between the particles. Repot as soon as you see new roots appearing from the pseudo bulbs and before they get longer than 2-3 cm. If the new roots are allowed to get too long, there is increased risk of damaging them during repotting.

PAPHIOPEDILUM CULTURAL NOTES (AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2018) by Trevor Burnett

The plants have expended considerable energy in producing and supporting flowers. The early variety flowers will now be coming to an end. It is time now to look towards the task of repotting and replacement of the growing medium for reasons such as:

- a) the plant has grown too large for the existing container;
- b) the potting material has broken down and must be replaced;
- c) the plant has naturally divided into two pieces;
- d) you have purchased plants (from various sources and therefore in various different media) in flower through the flowering season.

Paphiopedilums are repotted in a variety of growing media that are generally based on bark or wood chips. Most plants require repotting every 2nd year for larger pots or more often if in smaller pots. Small plants respond to repotting more frequently with increased growth. The watering habit of the grower will influence mix selection. If you are a compulsive user of water and have difficulty in withholding watering, then you will need a more open mix to allow for plants to dry out a little between watering. On the other hand, someone who is sparing with watering or is away from home for a period, may require a finer mix that is able to retain water longer. A finer mix can be obtained by using the basic bark mix and adding some sphagnum moss to the mix.

My programme comes back to 10 days between watering. My general mix is:

- 4 parts clean bark
- 1 part charcoal
- 1 part polystyrene or perlite

Text books recommend growing the plants in small pots, but I personally do not like bonsai, so I grow my plants in larger pots (130mm or 140mm) and get good results. I believe you obtain larger growths which at the end of the season result in larger and stronger flowers. I also make a habit of repotting any new orchids purchased, swapped etc. into my own medium as soon as possible. A lot of the time members purchase plants from many sources and leave them in existing mix as the mix looks fine. This is a trap, as your watering and fertilizing programme is developed for your mix and conditions. It is extremely hard to manage when you have a variety of mixes in varying degrees of decomposition.

CYMBIDIUM CULTURAL NOTES (AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2018) based on notes from Roy Brown

Time is running towards the Spring months, and this means more and more of our Cymbidiums will be opening their flower buds, so see to it the racemes are staked properly and securely. Some varieties need no staking as they have thick, upright stems that are self-supporting, but others will need to be tied to stakes. When doing this, place the stake as near to the flower stem as possible. Tie the stem firmly, but not too tightly as it will continue to lengthen and must not be hindered in its growth.

If the raceme has grown a bit wayward and needs to be pulled back to vertical, this needs to be done gently, and may need to be done in stages, a little each day, to prevent snapping the stem. It is best to do this late in the day, when the stem is most flexible.

If you intend to exhibit the plant in any orchid shows, then do not allow the stake to be higher than the flower stem.

Repotting should now be in full swing. As the early plants finish flowering, a start can be made on dividing and repotting these. This will give the plant the benefit of a full year's growth in the pot, and should enable the plant to make up its new bulbs in time to produce its early flowers again next season. Any plants that are not going to flower this season can also be repotted. This will allow you more time later on in September to repot, as their turn comes, plants that are now in spike.

Keep watch for any insect pests, just one slug, snail or caterpillar can ruin the whole spike and your whole 12 months effort. Baysol is the best remedy for slugs and snails.

From our July General Meeting...

(Notes recorded by Jenny McLean)

Staking Cymbidiums presented by Courtney Rogasch.

The six spike habits for orchids that are commonly staked include those that are:

- Upright, such as cymbidiums
- Sub-erect in spike habit
- Arching
- Horizontal in growth habit
- Cascading
- Pendulous.

They should be staked and displayed according to their preferred habit. Stakes should be hidden behind the raceme for show purposes. A raceme that is still growing has not set yet, so care must be taken when directing a raceme's growth. Adjust the face to the spike WHEN WARM to face the front (WARNING! if cold when adjusting there is a danger spike will snap off). The bloom can be warmed in the sun and straightened gently over time. It's best to stake before the raceme has set. Put a temporary stake in while setting up the raceme. Replace with a permanent stake when the plant is ready for showing. Place the tag in front of the plant and hide the stake, as much as possible.

Aluminium stakes are flexible enough to bend once or cut off to size but bending too many times will cause it to snap. Height of the stake should not be above the end of the spike so bend or cut off the aluminium at the height of the straightened stem. Blooms/spikes in baskets can be attached to hangers for the show bench but avoid bright colours that detract from the flowers (green or black blend in well). If using plant clips use the minimum you can get away with. No ties or clips should be in contact with the flower, or any part of its attachment to the stem (the ovary). Judges will look for a raceme that can support itself. For presentation purposes trim ends off damaged leaves at an angle to tidy up. Leaves can be taken out of the centre to give buds more room and the plant more sun. Be careful not to remove too many leaves, as the plant will not be able to get the benefits it needs from the sun if there are insufficient leaves on the plant.

Pest prevention: copper tape tied around the stem will deter snails and slugs. DRY cotton wool pads clipped around the stem will stop caterpillars, but WET cotton wool pads around the stem will facilitate caterpillars and moths travelling up the stem. If the tie is too tight it may cause the stem to bulge. Tying a fishing weight or putting a clothes peg on a pendulous spike will cause a pendulous raceme to lengthen. Remember to remove before showing.

Popular vote winners:

Open: The *Ryncholaelia glauca* brought in by owner **Maxine Godbeer** was a beautiful, large, mounted specimen with several pastel creamy-coloured, medium-sized flowers. Its preferred habit is in a shadehouse and rainwater is

used for watering. Apart from that it is a hardy plant and left much to its own devices.

Novice: The *Oncidium* Gold Dust 'WOC Raspberry' owned by **Jenny McLean** is a favourite. It can be described as a delightful miniature orchid and was presented with one spike of dark, raspberry coloured outer petals and light rose pink inner petals. By contrast the tiny, intricate central apparatus is golden yellow. It is not perfumed. The plant was obtained as a seedling approximately 18 months ago from Tinonee Orchids and the flower spike has lasted 2 months. The plant is housed in an open shadehouse with 50 -75% light, watered with rainwater whenever possible and fed occasionally with Gogo Juice, Maxicrop and liquid Strike Back.

The Orchid Society of WA (Inc.)

Minutes of the General Meeting held in the Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning, on Friday 27 July 2018 (Recorded by Jenny McLean)

Welcome: Meeting started at 7.38pm

Apologies: As per Register (M Baker, K Bayliss, H Ashton)

Birthdays in: **July:** 1st Kevin Butler, 15th Dana Mitchell, 16th Maureen Grantham

August: 30th Kirsty Bayliss, 31st Lynn Brooks.

Meeting Item: (Courtney) Staking orchids

Congratulations: Trevor Burnett attended the AOC conference in Sydney earlier this month and entered a paph of his own breeding into the competition: *Paphiopedilum* Lorna Doone 'Karwar' (named for Lorna Dodd). The plant won Champion Australian Cut Flower, Champion Australian Cut Flower, and Best Standard Paphiopedilum of the show, and it received an AM (Award of Merit) from the judges.

Break for popular vote

Minutes: Moved Merrill Brechin, seconded Ray Taylor, that the Minutes of the June General Meeting be accepted. Carried.

Business arising:

- Renewal of Manning Senior Citizens' Centre annual membership is due – Committee to follow up.

Confirmation: Moved by Jack Krishnan, seconded Lina Pacca, that the business arising has been dealt with. Carried.

Correspondence:

- Francis Tapire of Bunnings O'Connor, re OSWA doing something for their Garden Club on 2 August
- Ken Jones ISODW, including Andrea Neissen no longer coming to or selling plants at ISODW, Jim Shaughnessy to replace her as speaker.
- From Ken Jones, receipt for OrchidsWA membership; email about draft rules; new agenda and financial statement for August OrchidsWA meeting.
- Thea Shaughnessy (new AOC treasurer), requesting our contact details.
- Garden Clubs of Australia, Notice of AGM and invitation to attend (in Sydney; J Bateman attending).
- From Tony Watkinson requesting updated OSWA details for OrchidsWA website.
- Nikola Willis, re Waterford Plaza Community Day.
- To David Edmonds (Orchidup) thanking him for his article for the Bulletin.
- From Chris Dalrymple, latest news on AOCC2018 (conference in Sydney where Trevor was victorious).
- Responses to general email enquiries from members of the public.
- Received: Society Bulletins and junk mail.
- Invite from Belmont Sports and Recreation Club to participate in "Spring Into Gardening" expo, 7/10/18.

Business arising:

- Draft OrchidsWA rules discussed at committee, committee's comments to be circulated to other clubs. If any members wishing to see the current rules, draft rules, and committee comments, copies can be emailed. Contact Jenny for these within the next 2 weeks, contact Murray for these after 2 weeks.

Confirmation: Moved Lynn Brooks, seconded Ray Taylor that Correspondence be endorsed. Carried.

Financial Statement: Prepared and presented by Kaye Baylis.

Accounts for payment: Nil.

Confirmation: Moved K Baylis, seconded Lynn Brooks, that the Financial Statement and Accounts for Payment be endorsed. Carried.

New Members: Ms Chun Hua Yang (Applecross); Paul Armstrong (Bull Creek); Janine Harris (Coolbellup); Bridget Seaman (South Perth). Also Pamela and Phill Chadd, re-joined at meeting on 27/7/2018.

Reports:

- **Christmas in July.** (J Krishnan) Held last Friday night, was a resounding success. Approximately 12 people attended a banquet style dinner. Thanks to Jack Krishnan for organizing.
- **Waterford Plaza Community Day** (Lina/Caterina). Conducted 7 weeks ago. Was a quiet day and foot traffic was slow. There was some sales interest and brochures were handed out which did result in attendance at OSWA's winter show.
- **Floraplant visit of June 30** (R McGrath) Those who attended enjoyed the trip. Floraplant nursery is a sophisticated set up. Tom Stacey was thanked for driving the bus and trailer - full of plants on its return!
- **Joint Winter display with COCWA** 7th July (C Rogasch) Joint display between the Cymbidium club and OSWA on 7th July was a great success. The event involved all people from both clubs and good revenue was raised. Courtney expressed sincere thanks to all those involved for their input.

General Business:

- **Home Visit at Ray and Peta Taylor's Property:** Arrangements were outlined and members wishing to attend were asked to sign the sign-up sheet.
- **Ezi Gro Orchids and the Cymbidium Club Show:** Saturday 28th July at Ezi Gro Orchids in Darch.
- **Intersociety Orchid Display and Workshop** (L Pacca). Arrangements for setup were discussed. Theme to be "Botany Bay", model sailing ships requested. Kaye to coordinate display, Maxine/Trevor to coordinate benches.

- **Tropical Colours Nursery Visit:** Arrangements were discussed but nobody signed up for the visit.
- **South Eastern Orchid Society 2018 Annual Show.** 24-26 August, details in the bulletin.
- **OSWA Kardinya Spring Show.** 29 August – 1st Sept. Details in the bulletin. Volunteers needed to help set up and join roster for minding the stall – please sign up and/or contact Rosemary. Plants needed for the display and sales table.
- **Show Spring Orchid Fair 2018.** Aranmore Catholic College Hall, Oxford St, Leederville, 14 - 16 September, details in the bulletin or see Lynn. OSWA is not involved this year although this show is likely to become a joint show for all clubs in the future.
- **OSWA visit to Springfield Orchids.** First Sunday in October, 7/10/18. Nado Lenkic has offered to have a home open of his orchids, mainly cymbidiums. Flowering season is from now to October.
- **Bark order.** We will be placing a bulk order for Orchiata bark, \$23 per bag for members, \$30 for non-members. Members wanting to order bags to email to Courtney.
Ray Taylor recommended growing oncidiums on thick fern tree bark so that roots can dry out between waterings. Ray has some available for purchase.
- **Trailer repairs** (Courtney/Jenny) Jenny's husband, Brad, has replaced the wheel and fixed the jockey wheel on the OSWA trailer making it flexible so that it can be suitably adjusted to various tow bar heights on vehicles. Thanks expressed by the club to Brad.

Raffle: Helen Stretch, Lynn Brooks, Chris Sloan

Popular Vote: Open: *Rhyncholaelia glauca*, owner Maxine Godbeer

Novice: *Oncidium Gold Dust 'WOC Raspberry'*, owner Jenny McLean

Badge Prize: Natalia Kulchytsha

Any Other Business:

- President Courtney thanked members for their donations to supper, and volunteers at events
- In light of a Ballroom Dancing Class using the hall next door until 7.30 pm members are asked to minimise disruption to this group in terms of the space occupied and noise in setting up displays and judging. Much appreciated.

Meeting closed at 9.44pm.

MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION (July 2018)

(Note: Plants must have been owned by the grower for at least 6 months prior to entry in Monthly Meetings and Shows)

OPEN

1A	1	1	Maxine Godbeer	<i>Rhyncholaelia glauca</i>
1B	(5)	1	Howard Tan	<i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> Dream Trader 'Canning'
		2	Howard Tan	<i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> Dream Trader 'Canning'
		3	Howard Tan	<i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> Dream Trader 'Canning'
3A	(1)	1	Ray Taylor	<i>Paphiopedilum wardii</i> ('Taida's Eagle' x 'Hung Sheng')
3C	(3)	1	Ray Taylor	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (Hsinying Citron x Hsinying Emma)
		2	Ray Taylor	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (Hsinying Art Pie x Laserlight Green Centre "Peta")
		3	Ray Taylor	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (Hung Sheng Red x Shin-Yi Heart)
6B	(1)	2	Ray Taylor	<i>Oncidium</i> Sweet Sugar 'Super'
6D	(5)	1	Ray Taylor	<i>Zelglossoda</i> Calico Gem
		2	Rosemary McGrath	<i>Odontocidium</i> Golden Trident 'Golden Gate'
		3	Rosemary McGrath	<i>Degamoara</i> 'Starshot Vashon'
7A	(1)	1	Ray Taylor	<i>Rhynchostylis gigantea</i> 4N x sibling
8A	(1)	1	Ian Duncan	<i>Dendrobium speciosum</i> var. <i>capricornium</i>
8B	(1)	1	Tara Peeters	<i>Dendrobium</i> (Regal Gillieston x Starsheen)
10B	(3)	1	Maxine Godbeer	<i>Dendrochilum wenzelii</i>
		2	M Godbeer	<i>Dendrochilum tenellum</i>
		3	Ray Taylor	<i>Coelogyne cristata</i>
11A	(2)	1	Ray Taylor	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Nicholle Tower 'Peta'
		2	Ray Taylor	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Nicholle Tower
12	(1)	1	Ray Taylor	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Nicholle Tower 'Keely' (<i>dalessandroi</i> 'Orange Glow' x <i>longifolium</i> 'Black as Night')

NOVICE

20D (1) 1 Jenny McLean *Oncidium Gold Dust 'WOC Raspberry'*

POPULAR VOTE

OPEN Maxine Godbeer *Rhyncholaelia glauca*

NOVICE Jenny McLean *Oncidium Gold Dust 'WOC Raspberry'*

SCHOKMAN TROPHY Howard Tan *Rhyncholaeliocattleya Dream Trader 'Canning' (72 points)*
(Laelinae)

JIM GRANTHAM MEMORIAL TROPHY R Taylor *Phragmipedium Nicholle Tower 'Peta' (72 points)*
(Phragmipedium)



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