

THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ORCHID BULLETIN

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

NEXT MEETING of the Orchid Society of Western Australia (Inc.) will be held at the **Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning**, on **Friday 23rd March, 2018**, commencing at **7:30 pm**.

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THIS MONTH'S MEETING ITEM:

RICHGRO GARDEN PRODUCTS
GEOFF RICHARDS

APRIL MEETING DATES:

OSWA Committee 7:30 pm Friday 13th
(note: the second Friday of April!)

General Meeting 7:30 pm Friday 27th

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

GENERAL NEWS	2-3
CULTURAL NOTES - CYMBIDIUM	3
CULTURAL NOTES - CATTLEYA	3-4
CULTURAL NOTES - PAPHIOPEDILUM	4
PHOTOS FROM THE MONTHLY MEETING	4-5
MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION	6
MINUTES	7

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Birthdays

March: 11th Merrilyn Brechin, 19th John Walton,
24th Raye McIntosh, 25th Lorna Dodd, 26th Kaye Baylis, Peggy Stacey

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

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 Betty Saul, Sue Chafer, and Cheryl Compagnone. We hope you have many rewarding years ahead with our Society.

Perth Garden Festival: Thursday 12 April - Sunday 15 April 2018

OSWA will be having a stall at the Perth Garden Festival this year. We need helpers to set up (Wednesday 11 April) and look after the stall (9 am - 4 pm, Thursday 12 - Sunday 15 April) and plants in flower for a display. Donations of plants for a raffle will also be much appreciated.

We are not able to operate a sales table but this will be a good opportunity to show off our club and attract new members. A roster will be available at the March general meeting. Please consider volunteering a few hours to help out. Volunteers will be able to enter the Festival for free and there will be lots of interesting stuff to see and do. The Festival will be held at McCallum Park, which is on the Swan River southern foreshore, just south of the Causeway.

Shed Clean Up Day

Our annual shed clean up day to prepare for the upcoming show season will be on Sunday 29th April, at McDougal Park, Como, starting at 10am, to be followed by a sausage sizzle supplied by the Society. The park provides a pleasant environment for a BBQ so this will be a nice social activity.

Neutrog Bulk Order

Neutrog sells a wide range of organic fertilisers to cover all your orchid and gardening needs. OSWA endorses Strike Back Liquid for orchids. (Strike Back for Orchids liquid is the main fertiliser I use on my orchids, but I also use Seamungus liquid for seedlings and Gogo Juice for sick plants needing a boost.) OSWA members are able to buy Neutrog products at exceptional prices via our twice-a-year bulk purchase. Orders must be received by Kirsty Bayliss and paid for by Friday, 23rd March (the night of our March general meeting). Orders will be available for pick up from Rosemary's home, 2 Morrish Place, Como, after Tuesday 24th April.

Orchiata Potting Bark Bulk Purchase

OSWA has made another bulk purchase of Orchiata bark from Garden City Plastics. It is available in 40 litre bags in a choice of three grades: small (9-12 mm); medium (12-18 mm); and large (18-25 mm). To ensure that all members have a chance to get a bag or two, there will be a limit of three bags per member in the first instance. The cost to members is \$23 per 40 litre bag.

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. Courtney and Murray enjoyed this event last year but are unable to represent OSWA there again this year. Anyone interested in helping out please contact Courtney or Murray.

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

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

OSWA Office Bearers for 2018**Patron:** Trevor Burnett**President:** Courtney Rogasch**Vice Presidents:** Rosemary McGrath (2 year term) & Jim Baylis (2 year term, replacing Murray Baker)**Secretary:** Murray Baker**Treasurer:** Kirsty Bayliss**Immediate Past President:** Kaye Baylis.**Committee:** Elected to 2 year terms: Harry Ashton, Lynn Brooks, Ian Duncan, Jenny McLean.
Elected to 1 year term (replacng Jim Baylis): Lina Pacca.
Elected last year, 1 year remaining: Jack Krishnan, Lorna Dodd, Jacqui Bateman**Registrar:** Ian Duncan**Assistant Registrar:** Harry Ashton**Librarian:** Kaye Baylis**Opportunity (Sales) Table:** Rosalie McCallum, Coral Bielby**Show Marshall:** Kaye Baylis**Show Secretaries:** Rosemary McGrath, Merril Brechin**Show Sales:** Ian Duncan, Rosemary McGrath, Lynn Brooks**Orchids Australia correspondent:** Harry Ashton**Facebook page:** Kirsty Bayliss**Webmaster:** Murray Baker**Bulletin Editor:** Murray Baker**Auditor:** Harvey Viner

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

This is the time of the year when the young flower spikes are starting to develop, and so a drop in the temperature during the evening is a vital part of the successful flowering of Cymbidiums. Turning on the overhead sprinklers in the early evening will drop the temperature by quite a few degrees, creating the ideal conditions necessary for the growing and flowering of our plants. Always have a good check of your pots regularly to make sure the drainage is not blocked. Water should pass through the compost freely, not just seep away. Keep the regular fertilizer programme going, as the new seasons growths need to be kept growing at a fast rate, so they will develop sufficiently to produce their flowers when the time comes. If you should be poking about in your plants looking for these early flower spikes during March, do be very careful, they are very easily broken or damaged. Should you have to move a plant that has definite signs of flower spikes showing, be very careful to replace it in the exact same position with the flower spike facing the same direction as before. With the advent of flower spikes showing, it might be a good idea to give the shade house a general clean up, getting rid of all dead leaves, weeds and anything else that might harbour pests. Now is the time to also check that you have a good supply of pots and potting mix ready for those repotting jobs next month.

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

Although March is technically the first month of autumn, we can still expect days when the temperature goes quite high and there is little, if any, rain around to increase the humidity. The light may be decreasing slightly, but the heat still requires that you maintain shading as for the summer months.

Watering and fertilizing your plants will still follow a summer pattern, unless there is rain, when you can miss a watering if necessary. Cattleyas are plants that revel in a wet/dry cycle, where they like to dry out nearly fully before being watered again. You can gauge this by lifting up the pot after watering when it should feel heavy. The pot loses weight when drying out giving you the signal to re-water. At this time of the year, due to the cooler nights, check your plants after watering to make sure that no water has collected in between the upper leaves. This is essential, as at this time many plants will be producing flowering sheaths and buds and any water retained around them could cause rotting. If water has collected dry it up with a tissue. While attending to your plants also stake the pseudo bulb bearing the buds or sheaths erect, so that when the flowers emerge they will be pointing towards you and not any which way. If you move a plant to a flowering house out of the rain etc., make sure to leave the plant pointing in the same direction in which it was grown, otherwise the buds may open in an unsightly fashion.

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

Even though summer has officially finished, the summer pattern is still with us. We may still have some hot days over 34 °C to come, so we need to be mindful of this and adjust our watering accordingly. At this time of the year I water three times a week early in the morning with overhead sprinklers, so the plants are well saturated. This will allow time for the plant to dry out before the sun gets too high and will prevent any possibility of water burns. It will also ensure the plants are dry by nightfall. If excessive heat is forecast over consecutive days, you will need to watch plants in small pots and increase the watering as necessary. Watering is highly dependent on the composition of your potting mix and its ability to retain moisture. For beginners, a test pot of just potting mix in the growing area is recommended, until you understand the water holding capacity of your mix. You can empty the pot at any stage to see what water is retained. As the plants are still in active growth, keep a weak fertilizer programme going (at ¼ to ½ strength) on a weekly or fortnightly basis, depending on your time restraints. Ensure that you flush the mix with water between fertilising. In the glasshouse, the use of misting sprays under the benches will be beneficial by increasing the humidity levels on very hot days. It is equally important that plenty of fresh air, which is essential for the plants health, is available in the glasshouse. At this time of the year the paphiopedilum will have some leaves that have died over the summer months and these should be removed in preparation for the forthcoming flowering season, to prevent any unwanted vermin having an ideal hiding place. I would repot any small plants that are not expected to flower during this period, to ensure they have a nice clean mix before going into winter.



Murray Baker (pictured here with OSWA President Courtney Rogasch and Patron Trevor Burnett) was awarded Life Membership of OSWA at the February general meeting.

Repackaging

Many OSWA members use Strike Back for Orchids liquid. Empty liquid soap containers with a pump on top can be re-used as handy dispensers for small amounts of Strike Back liquid. One pump of the soap bottle in the picture dispenses about 3.5 mL of liquid. Two pumps dispenses 7 mL, enough Strike Back liquid to make up liquid fertiliser in a 1.25 litre sprayer, and 12 pumps dispenses about 42 mL, enough for an 8 litre sprayer. These liquid soap dispensers are also great for dispensing small amounts of soil wetting agent concentrate.

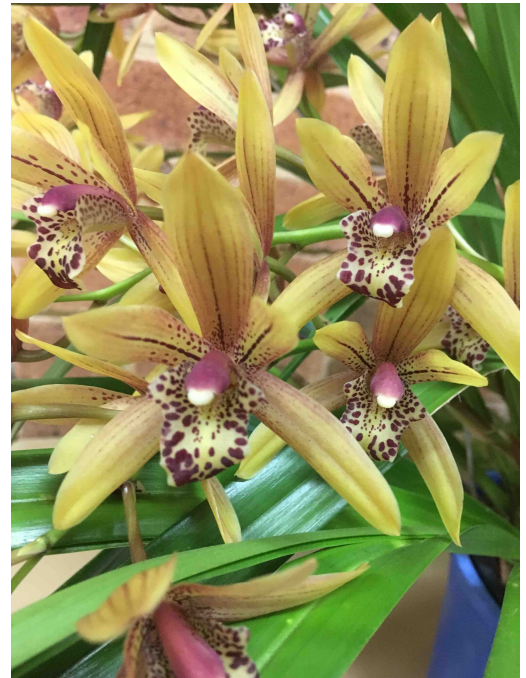
Liquid soap pump dispensers are not suitable for use with toxic chemicals (pesticides or herbicides) or anything based on organic solvents. Keep those things in their original packaging.



From the February meeting:



Guaricattonia (Cattleytonia) Brandi, grown by Peter Kissell.



Cymbidium Golden Elf 'Stardust' x Cymbidium dayanum 'Keith', grown by Lina Pacca

Cattleya George Lay x Cattleya digbyana, grown by Lynn Brooks



Bulbophyllum guttatum, grown by Maxine Godbeer.



MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION (February 2018)

OPEN

1A	(2)	1	Maxine Godbeer	<i>Laelia fidelensis</i>
		2	Ray Taylor	<i>Epidendrum phoeniceum</i>
1C	(1)	1	Maxine Godbeer	<i>Rhyncholaelocattleya</i> Husky Boy
1E	(1)	1	Peter Kissell	<i>Guaricattonia</i> Brandi
1F	(2)	1	Ray Taylor	<i>Procatavola</i> Golden Peacock
		2	Ray Taylor	<i>Brassavola nodosa</i> x <i>Cattleya aurantiaca</i>
3C	(2)	1	Howard Tan	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Kulyx (?) x <i>Paphiopedilum rothschildianum</i>
			Ray Taylor	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Hsinying Bravo 'Hsinying' x <i>Paphiopedilum</i> Hsinying Emma 'Double Shot'
4D	(1)	1	Ray Taylor	<i>Dendrobium</i> Easter Bunny 'Supreme'
5A	(1)	1	Maxine Godbeer	<i>Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi</i> var. <i>alba</i>
6D	(3)	1	Courtney Rogasch	<i>Brassia</i> Rex 'Choice'
		2	Peter Kissell	<i>Rhynchosia</i> Pacific Paranoia
		3	Peter Kissell	<i>Odontoglossum</i> unknown
10B	(2)	1	Maxine Godbeer	<i>Gongora gratulabunda</i>
		2	Maxine Godbeer	<i>Bulbophyllum guttulatum</i>
11A	(1)	1	Ray Taylor	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Schroderae 'Pop Butler'
11B	(5)	1	Maxine Godbeer	<i>Paphinia</i> Majestic
		2	Maxine Godbeer	<i>Promenaea</i> Cachaca
		3	Ray Taylor	<i>Zygopabstia</i> Dragon Kitten 'Purr'
12	(1)	1	Tara Peeters	<i>Cattleya lobata</i> x <i>Cattleya purpurata</i>

NOVICE

15B	(1)	1	Lynn Brooks	<i>Cattleya</i> George Lay x <i>Cattleya digbyana</i>
16E	(1)	1	Lina Pacca	<i>Cymbidium</i> Golden Elf 'Stardust' x <i>Cymbidium dayanum</i> 'Keith'

POPULAR VOTE

OPEN	Peter Kissell	<i>Guaricattonia</i> Brandi
NOVICE (tie)	Lynn Brooks	<i>Cattleya</i> George Lay x <i>Cattleya digbyana</i>
	Lina Pacca	<i>Cymbidium</i> Golden Elf 'Stardust' x <i>Cymbidium dayanum</i> 'Keith'
SCHOKMAN TROPHY (Laelinae)	Peter Kissell	<i>Guaricattonia</i> Brandi (73 points)
JIM GRANTHAM MEMORIAL TROPHY (Phragmipedium)	Ray Taylor	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Schroderae 'Pop Butler' (72 points)

Minutes of the General Meeting held in the Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning, on 23/2/2018

Welcome: 7:32 pm

Apologies: As per Register

Meeting adjourned for AGM at 7:36 pm, reconvened 8:05 pm.

Birthdays: February: 7th Jim Baylis, 11th Nancie Jones, 23rd Helen Stretch. March: 11th Merril Brechin, John Walton, 24th Raye McIntosh, 25th Lorna Dodd, 26th Kaye Baylis, Peggy Stacey.

Minutes: Moved K Bayliss seconded R Taylor that the Minutes of the December 2017 meeting be accepted. Carried.

Business arising: Nil.

Correspondence:

- WAROO 20th Jan '18 Eaton Tavern, AGM Agenda, Minutes '17 AGM, Audited Financial Statement, BAS Statement
- WOC 24 (in 2023) Open Day & Workshop 3rd March, Bentley Community Centre, Nyamup Way, Bentley 9am-12noon, bring plate of food to share for morning tea, + ideas to share
- Letters to Southlands, Bullcreek, The Park Centre, re possible Winter Show in July
- Reply from Southlands interested but Marketing Manager is away, contact again in a month's time
- Confirmation Autumn Show at Riverton
- WAROO re change of name
- Neutrog order forms have arrived
- From Community Newspapers, request to use our Phalaenopsis culture notes for an article; replied yes, requested to see article before publication.
- Responses to routine email enquiries from members of the public.
- Received: Society Bulletins and junk mail.

Business arising:

- R Taylor enquired whether Strike Back was available in 4L containers. (Following up with Brian Klepzig).

Confirmation: Moved R Taylor, seconded P Kissell, that Correspondence be endorsed. Carried.

Financial Statement: Presented by K Bayliss.

Confirmation: Moved K Bayliss, seconded L Brooks, that the Financial Statement and Accounts for Payment endorsed. Carried.

Reports:

- BBQ at Kaye & Jim Baylis' Home: K Baylis thanked all who attended and helped make it a terrific night. R Taylor moved a vote of thanks to the Baylises, which was approved by acclamation.
- WAROO: I Duncan discussed aspects of the recent WAROO meeting.

Presentations:

- M Baker presented with Life Membership
- Judges Choice certificates (2017) presented to H Tan and V Cooper. Trophies (2017) presented to M Godbeer.

General Business:

- WAROO change of name: Prospects of proposed name change for WAROO discussed. There was general agreement that the proposed new name OrchidsWA was too close to OSWA's and should be opposed, but that also the possible effects of the change are difficult to predict.
- Prospect of another Orchid Bark purchase discussed; to be considered at committee.
- Neutrog Orders – members orders are to be in by March 23rd, pick up after Tuesday 24th April
- Garden Festival McCallum Park: Set up Wednesday 11th April, Show 9am – 4pm 12th to 15th April. Roster available, members asked to book times to look after our display.
- Shed Cleanup planned for 29 April.
- Combined Cymbidium Club & OSWA Winter Show July 7th Manning SC Dining Room, with possibility of setup/judging on the evening of Friday 6th.
- Stocklands Riverton Autumn Show – 9th to 12th May Set up Tuesday 8th May
- C Rogash showed a Laeliniae plant that needs repotting, noting that the weather is too hot for repotting now. Explained how to "back cut" (cut through a rhizome, sterilizing the cut and jamming a sterilised plant tag between the cut parts), leaving the plant in the pot. The "back cut" prepares the plant for division, and might encourage the older part of the plant to sprout new growths. The plant can then be repotted in a month's time when the weather is more suitable.

Break for popular vote

Raffle: P Kissell, M Davis, R McCallum, L Pacca, L Waters, L Brooks, V Cooper, Bernard. Thank you to R McGrath who won but called "redraw".

Popular Vote: Open: Cattleytonia Brandi, owner Peter Kissell

Novice/Junior (Tied): *Cymbidium* (Golden Elf 'Sunburst' x *dayanum* 'Keith'), owner L Pacca, and *Cattleya* George Lay x *Rhyncholaelia digbyana*, owner L Brooks.

Door Prize: A Baker

Supper: Wine and Cheese

Meeting closed at 9:30 pm

PRESENTING

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