

THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ORCHID BULLETIN

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

NEXT MEETING of the Orchid Society of Western Australia (Inc.) will be held at the **Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning**, on **Friday 28th September, 2018**, commencing at **7:30 pm**.

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THIS MONTH'S MEETING ITEM:

SPOTLIGHT ON A MEMBER
COURTNEY ROGASCH & MURRAY BAKER

OCTOBER MEETING DATES:

OSWA Committee 7:30 pm Friday 5th
General Meeting 7:30 pm Friday 26th

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

GENERAL NEWS	2-3
CULTURAL NOTES - CATTLEYA	3
CULTURAL NOTES - PAPHIOPEDILUM	3
CULTURAL NOTES - CYMBIDIUM	4
MINUTES	4
MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION	5
SOME ORCHIDS IN FLOWER THIS MONTH	6

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Birthdays

September: 6th Alan Prosser, 14th Bob Longmore, 18th Ishita Ratnaparkhi. October: 16th Barbara 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 Member

Welcome to Ishita Ratnaparkhi. We hope you have many rewarding years ahead with our Society.

Neutrog

Our next bulk order of Neutrog products will be placed next week. Any members wishing to purchase Neutrog products should ensure payment & completed forms are sent to Kirsty Bayliss by 28th September (this Friday, the day of the general meeting). Order forms were sent out with the bulletin last month. Purchases will be available for collection on 21st October. The WhoFlungDung for members who signed up for it with Brian Klepzig at the August meeting should be available then too.

Bulk Order of Orchiata Bark

The Orchiata bark has arrived and can be collected from the shed this Saturday, 29 September, 1 pm - 3 pm. The cost is \$23 per bag for members. Sorry, but no credit can be provided. The shed is at Neil McDougal Park, Como (down a driveway off Clydesdale Street, opposite number 27). Enquiries to Kirsty (0413 599 998 or kirstylbayliss@gmail.com). Thank you to Leo, Paul and Geoff for helping unload the truck when the bark was delivered to the shed.

OSWA visit to Springfield Orchids — Sunday 7 October 2018, from 10 am

Nado Lenkic will host a visit by OSWA to his orchid nursery at 32 Lyndhurst Road, Kalamunda.

At this stage we are unsure whether the bus will be available. Arrangements will be confirmed at the general meeting on Friday. Be sure to sign the sign-up sheet at the meeting.

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. You can learn more about the nursery at www.springfieldorchids.com.au.

Home Visit with John and Karen Carless — Sunday 14 October, from 10 am

John and Karen Carless invite OSWA members to visit their home at 770 South West Highway, Byford, to see John's orchids and enjoy morning tea.

Please bring a plate of nibbles to share.

John has an excellent setup and specialises in orchids that can be grown in a shadehouse throughout the year in Perth. He is very particular about how he grows his orchids and keeps the nursery and the orchids clean.

Visitors are requested to look but not touch the orchids!

Potting Workshop: Sunday 21 October, from 10 am

The workshop will run from 10 am until 4 pm, at Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, 3 Downey Drive, Manning (where we hold our General Meetings). Plants will be potted, there will be sales of orchids and orchid-related paraphernalia, there will be talks, there will be a display, and there will be scones and other snacks.

Contact Kaye (mobile: 0400 205 090) or Courtney (mobile: 0407 049 717) if you can help with repotting or are willing to give a short talk on the day. Plant sales tags will be available at the general meeting. The Potting Workshop is a highlight of the OSWA calendar and is an excellent event for anyone wishing to learn more about potting and other aspects of orchid culture. And members get in for free! And members might get free scones!

Speakers, potters & helpers needed, as well as plants for the display and for the sales table.

Setup will be from around 8 am.

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.

Spring Show Results will be published in the October Bulletin

Christmas Dinner: Itsara Restaurant, 25 Stirling Highway Nedlands. Sunday 11 November 2018.

The restaurant serves delicious Thai food. Our dinner will be in a special section of the restaurant that has many vandas on display. \$50 per person. A sign-up sheet will be circulated at the next two general meetings.

For Sale: Eucalyptus oil @ \$8.00 per 100 mL.

Courtney recommends a spray made from 10 mL eucalyptus oil + 500 mL water + 500 mL methylated spirits to control mealy bug and scale. Contact Courtney on 0407 049 717 prior to a meeting to arrange purchase.

Casserole Night - Not this month.

Thank you to the members who volunteered to prepare a dish, but unfortunately the casserole night will not be held this month.

NAOGAA

It has been reported that the NAOGAA has been sighted in the southern suburbs! Watch this space. Further details as they come to hand.

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

With the increase in daylight hours, there is evidence that Spring is here after a winter of cold nights and late winter rains. Your Cattleyas should now be showing signs of recovering from dormancy, by growth buds beginning to enlarge in some and by the appearance of new roots in others. Where you see these signs on plants they provide an indication that those plants are ready to be repotted in new mix if they are growing out of the pot, or if the mix has been there for a long while and is probably going stale and is unlikely to last for another year in good condition. These plants should be inspected to see if they only need transfer to a bigger pot or whether they need to be divided. If division is contemplated, do not go for divisions of less than 4 mature bulbs each. If there appears not to be any new roots on the posterior divisions, the plant could be partially divided at the necessary spot and left for a couple of months to let a new growth appear, when the cut could be completed and the division made. This also reminds me that when thinking of dividing a plant, make sure by removing any old sheaths around it, that there is a viable bud at the point of division. If none is found, do not divide it at that point but seek another spot. When potting on a Cattleya it is worth choosing a mix that will be adaptable to the time you can give to watering your plants. If frequent watering is possible, a coarser, less absorbent mix can be used, while those people who cannot spare enough time to water the plants should use a smaller sized mix which will hold water for longer. Cattleyas like a wet to nearly dry cycle for best growth. Use a pot size you feel will be adequate to allow at least 2-3 years growth before the need for repotting arises. Do not over-pot. When repotting, hold the plant so that the oldest bulb sits plumb with the back edge of the pot, giving the new growth at least 2 years of growth in front. After filling the pot with your mix, the plant should be anchored firmly enough for you to lift it up by the leaves without separating it from the pot. A stake alongside the foremost growth to which it is tied is also worth considering if there is any doubt about stability. Water the plant well and leave it a shady area of the shadehouse for a couple of weeks before returning it to its normal spot. You can fertilise the plant with something like Seasol or Strikeback before commencing its normal feeding after 3-4 weeks.

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

As I discussed last month you should now be ensuring that, by the end of October, you have completed repotting of the plants that have finished flowering. The plants that did not produce spikes should already have been done. With warmer conditions now gradually becoming the norm during these months, increased attention needs to be given to the watering. As all my plants now have a nice new open mix, I increase my watering programme to once a week, but always in the morning. When you water now, check to ensure that the water freely flows out of the drainage holes at the bottom of the pot. As a lot of us place small crock pieces in the base of the pot, we need to ensure that good drainage is maintained and we have not retarded the water flow with crocking of the pots. With the warmer weather, the fertilizer programme can be increased to weekly or fortnightly with a high Nitrogen based fertilizer to promote good development of the new growths. When repotting plants from the existing pot, carefully extract all the growing mix with your fingers and remove any dead roots. Care must be taken not to damage live roots when repotting as paphiopedilums have a limited root system. Place the plant in the pot, with the base of the plant some 15mm below the rim of the pot, and work the mix in and around the roots. Gently bumping the pot on the bench can also assist in the placement of the mix. On top of the mix I spread a small quantity of crushed sea shells or gravel sand which helps support the plant from moving in the pot, which will cause root damage.

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

We are now entering into the Spring months when we see the majority of our Cymbidiums flowering once again. Also these are the months when the orchid societies hold their annual Spring Shows, so give your plants that are in spike that little extra care and attention, then enter them into the shows so that everyone can enjoy them with you. I should start off this month with a few hints on preparing your plants for exhibition. Firstly, give the pots a good clean up. Next, wipe the leaves over with a clean, damp, soft cloth. Trim the ends of the leaves, some may have dead tips and these can look rather unsightly. Always remember to sterilize the cutting instrument after attending to each plant. Then, probably the most important point, make sure that those plants that need it are properly staked, so presenting their flowers in a proper manner. It doesn't really take long to prepare each plant for a show, but it does make all the difference to the finished product. Finally, on the morning of the day that the Show is to be set up, give your plants a good water as they may have to be on display for 3 or 4 days. You should already be hard at it with dividing and repotting by now, and by doing each plant in turn after it has flowered, it will save a lot of last minute, hurried work at the end of October.

The Orchid Society of WA (Inc.)**Minutes of the General Meeting held in the Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, on Friday 24 August 2018**

Welcome: 7:35 pm.

Apologies: As per Register

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

Meeting Item: Brian Klepzig -- Neutrog. Brian gave an enjoyable presentation on the new Neutrog product WhoFlungDung. All members attending received a bottle of Sudden Impact for Roses, and were able to sign up for a free package of WhoFlungDung (to be delivered at a later date).

Break for popular vote

Minutes: Moved R Pohl, seconded L Pacca that the Minutes of the July General Meeting be accepted. Carried.

Business arising: Nil

Correspondence:

- From Tony Watkinson re proposed Borneo trip to include Asia Pacific Orchid Conference in Kuching, Sarawak (already full).
- Email exchange with Community News, re advert for Potting Workshop.
- Email exchange with The Grow Room, re donation of hydroponics books to OSWA.
- Email exchange with Luke Burnside, re a booklet he is writing about orchids.

Confirmation: Moved L Brooks, seconded R Gordon that Correspondence be endorsed. Carried.

Financial Statement: Prepared and presented by Kirsty Bayliss. Accounts for payment were noted.

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

New Members: Pamela and Phil Chadd

Reports:

- **Home Visit at Ray and Peta Taylor's Property.** J McLean reported that there were hoards of members fawning over cakes and the special soup. Ray showed his growing area and how his hothouse works. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day.
- **Intersociety Orchid Display and Workshop.** C Rogasch thanked all who helped and noted that we can't operate at such events without volunteers and members who bring in plants. The event was quite successful for OSWA — our display won second place and we only lost the bench judging on handicap.

General Business:

- **Eucalyptus oil:** C Rogasch uses a spray based on eucalyptus oil instead of malathion to control mealy bugs and scale. His recipe is 10 mL eucalyptus oil + 500 mL water + 50 mL methylated spirits. Pure eucalyptus oil is available from C Rogasch, 100 mL for \$8.
- **Kardinya Show:** Arrangements for the show were discussed. Members were advised that plants unsuitable for judging due to minor damage would still be appreciated for the display.
- **Bark order:** Several members volunteered to help unload the truck on delivery to the shed.
- **Springfield Orchids Nursery visit:** Sunday 7 October. A signup sheet was circulated. Availability of bus to be confirmed.
- **Christmas Dinner at Itsara:** H Ashton outlined arrangements for this year's Christmas Dinner, which will be held at Itsara (Thai restaurant), 25 Stirling Highway Nedlands on the evening of Sunday 11 November. The restaurant has a special section with many vandas on display. \$50 per person. A sign-up sheet will be circulated at the next two general meetings.
- **Neutrog Bulk Order:** Order forms were sent with the bulletin, orders with payment due by September general meeting.

- **Tropical Colours Orchid Nursery Visit:** was cancelled because nobody signed up! Another visit will be arranged for 2019.
- **OSWA visit to John Carless's place:** will be organised for a weekend day in October.
- **South Eastern Orchid Society 2018 Annual Show.** 24-26 August, details in the July bulletin.
- **Show Spring Orchid Fair 2018.** Aranmore Catholic College Hall, Oxford St, Leederville, 14 - 16 September, details in the August bulletin or see Lynn.

Raffle: R Pohl, T Burnett, J Bateman, B Jenkins, K Baylis, C Bielby, R McCallum. For kindly donating extra raffle prizes, thank you to: T Burnett and R Taylor (extra plants); P Chia and G Braid (cuttle fish shell); Brian Klepzig and Neutrog (Sudden Impact for Roses).

Popular Vote. Open: *Paphiopedilum* (Hung Sheng x Shin-Yi Heart), owner R Taylor.

Novice: *Oncidium* unknown, owner E Chelva.

Badge Prize: L Brooks.

Next Committee: Friday 7 September.

Next General Meeting: Friday 28 September

Meeting closed at: 9:35 pm

MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION (August 2018)

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

OPEN

1C	(1)	1	Ray Taylor	<i>Laeliocattleya</i> Secret Love
1F	(1)	1	Ray Taylor	<i>Epicattleya</i> Sergioara Yokosuka Story
3A	(1)	1	Ray Taylor	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> <i>delenatii</i>
3C	(1)	1	Ray Taylor	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (Hung Sheng x Shin-Yi Heart)
8B	(2)	1	Ray Taylor	<i>Dendrobium</i> Cobber 'Yibbidy Ya Ya'
		2	Ray Taylor	<i>Dendrobium</i> Brimbank Gold
11A	(3)	1	Ray Taylor	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Nicholle Tower 'Peta'
		2	Ray Taylor	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Nicholle Tower
		3	Ray Taylor	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Nicholle Tower 'Keely'
12	(1)	1	Ray Taylor	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (FC Puddle x Enzan Land)

NOVICE

15F	(1)	1	Harry Ashton	<i>Epidendrum</i> Comet Valley 'Yellow Star'
16C	(1)	1	Harry Ashton	<i>Cymbidium</i> Beau Guest
16E	(1)	1	Anna Sipieterre	<i>Cymbidium</i> Bulbarrow
18A	(1)	1	Lynn Brooks	<i>Dockrillia</i> <i>teretifolium</i>
20D	(1)	1	Endi Chelva	<i>Cymbidium</i> unknown

POPULAR VOTE

OPEN	Ray Taylor	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (Hung Sheng x Shin-Yi Heart)
NOVICE	Enid Chelva	<i>Oncidium</i> unknown

SCHOKMAN TROPHY (Laeliinae) Ray Taylor *Laeliocattleya* Secret Love (66 points)

JIM GRANTHAM MEMORIAL TROPHY (Phragmipedium) Ray Taylor *Phragmipedium* Nicholle Tower 'Peta' (66 points)

Native terrestrial orchids at Murdoch University.

Murdoch University campus covers over 200 hectares and much of the campus is native bushland. There are public walks into the campus off Farrington Road that wind into areas where native orchids grow.

Here are some orchids flowering at Murdoch University this month, photographed by Kirsty Bayliss.

If you have a free afternoon over the next few weeks, Murdoch would be worth a visit.



Caladenia flava



Pterostylis sanguinea



Diuris corymbosa



Caladenia latifolia

Popular vote winners at our August meeting...

At right: *Oncidium* unknown, grown by Enid Chelva.

Below: *Paphiopedilum* (Hung Sheng x Shin-Yi Heart), grown by R Taylor.

